

**Tormsdale Gunns:
being descendants of Donald Gunn 1750 – 1840**

being a revised edition of the first part of

*Scotland and Beyond; the Families of Donald Gunn (Tormsdale)
and John Gunn (Dalnaha, Strathmore and Braehour)*



Tormsdale 2011

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and

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We particularly thank Sharon and Bill Gurney for their invaluable help.

Little is known of the ancestry or siblings of Donald Gunn (Tormsdale).¹ He may have had a brother John, for a John Gunn and Catherine McDonald witnessed the christening of Donald's sons Hugh and Alexander. John and Catherine were married in 1787, their first-born son also being named John. Scottish naming customs of the time suggest that Donald's father may also have been named John.

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¹From an email by Sharon Gurney October 2009 and then various other emails. They may be accurate but we are not yet convinced. 'Re: Donald Gunn in Tormsdale—Parents John Gunn and Margaret, Siblings: John Gunn / Catherine MacDonald (Halkirk), Alexander Gunn / Janet Mackay (Bualchork), Margaret Gunn / George Gunn (Brachour).

1. John Gunn / Catherine MacDonald. Witnesses at Baptism of two children of Donald Gunn / Janet Mackenzie. Their son John was president of the (Clan Gunn?) Benevolent Society 1821.

2. Alexander Gunn / Janet Mackay lived in Edinburgh and Bualchork. Their daughter Margaret was born in Bualchork, 1796. Witness at baptism was Margaret Gunn of Bualchork and Donald Gunn Olgrinmore. Children were Janet, 1791, John, 1793, Margaret, 1796.

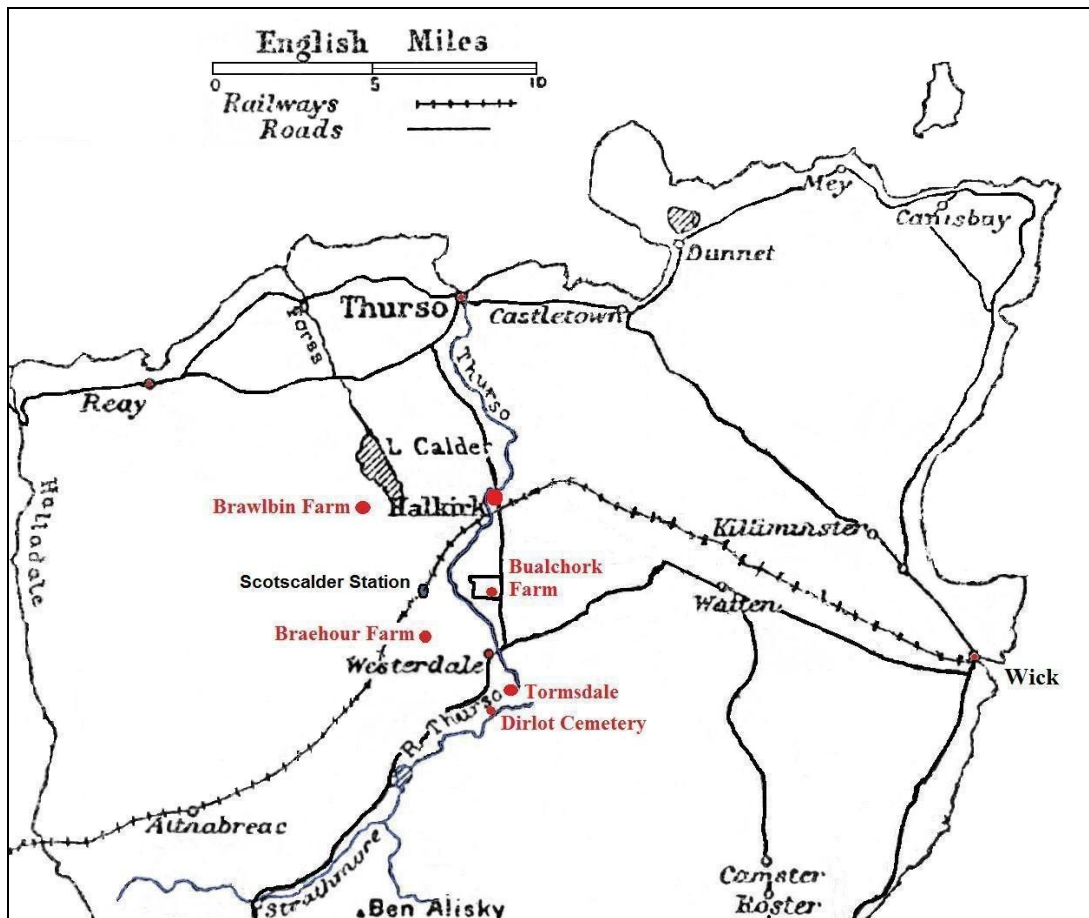
3. Margaret Gunn / George Gunn Their grandson Rev. James Gunn is buried beside families of John Gunn, 1764, and Nans? Mackay of Dorrairy? (Dorrery). (Halkirk Cemetery). James was a Minister in Uig parish and died in 1858, age 36. (Son of Alex Gunn and Ann Waters.)' From an October 2010 email; 'William Gunn of Achlibster ... I have wondered if he was the father of John Gunn of Tormsdale and therefore the grandfather of Donald Gunn in Tormsdale. Achlibster and Tormsdale are 1½ miles apart and Donald's family are often recorded as being in Achlibster.' And from a further email: 'Here is something very interesting for you—from the Thurso records—a marriage—John Gunn of Tormsdale, Helen Bain of Hoy, married 1742. It is interesting that John Gunn / Catherine MacDonald's second daughter was named Helen.' And from a November 2009 email: '1742 John Gunn, Tormsdale, married Helen Bain, How, in Thurso Parish, 1774 / 75 Donald Gunn, Harpsdale, married Margaret Gunn, Tormsdale, in Halkirk Parish, Daughter Helen Gunn born 1778 in Mybster, Halkirk Parish, 1782 Donald Gunn, Tormsdale, married Janet MacKenzie, Children born in Tormsdale, 1804 Isabel Gunn, Tormsdale married Alexander Gunn, Bualmore, in Halkirk Parish, 1802 Isabel Gunn, Tormsdale witnessed bapt. of Christian Gunn, daughter of Donald Gunn and Janet Mackenzie, 1805 Catherine Gunn, Tormsdale witnessed bapt. of Marcus Gunn, son of Donald Gunn and Janet Mackenzie.' And from a further email March 2010: 'There is never a mention in any early Church records of another Gunn family besides yours in Tormsdale. This family seems to have had close ties to the Achlibster area.'

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A map of north-east Scotland, showing some key places in Gunn history.

Introduction to the Revised Edition

In 2012 Donald Gunn and I published a book called *Scotland and Beyond; the Families of Donald Gunn (Tormsdale) and John Gunn (Dalnaha, Strathmore and Braehour)*. It is still available to buy via Lulu publishing and elsewhere, ISBN 978-1-4716-4795-6. Donald, sadly, died a few years ago. I know he would have agreed with this revision.

I recognize, now, that book was somewhat confused in its focus although that focus suited its authors. It also has errors. The text is about two families with one link between them, namely the Tormsdale Gunn family line and the Chief of the Clan Gunn Braehour family line. The link happened when Alexander Gunn 1789-1857 of the Tormsdale line married Barbara Gunn 1810-1844 of the Clan Gunn Chief Braehour line. Tormsdale and Braehour are both farms in Caithness.

Genealogical books benefit from a focus on one family, not two, hence this revised edition which only includes Clan Gunn Chief Braehour line detail *after* the marriage of Alexander Gunn and Barbara Gunn.

Barbara Gunn descended from Chief Donald Crotach Gunn c. 1642 - c. 1708 via his second daughter Margaret Gunn who married John Gunn of Borrobol, Kinbrace Farm, Rumsdale and Grimachary.

I legally descend from this Clan Gunn Chief line - the College of Arms in London has registered my descent from Margaret's second son Alexander Gunn of Dalnaglaton (see the bottom right of the next page). The line from the first son – recognized as Chiefs by the Court of Session (the supreme court of Scotland) – ran out of surnamed Gunns in the 19th century. In other words, the idea underpinning the 2015 invention of a Clan Gunn Chief - that the traditional Clan Gunn Chief line had died out – is just wrong. How this Chief issue will play out only time will tell.

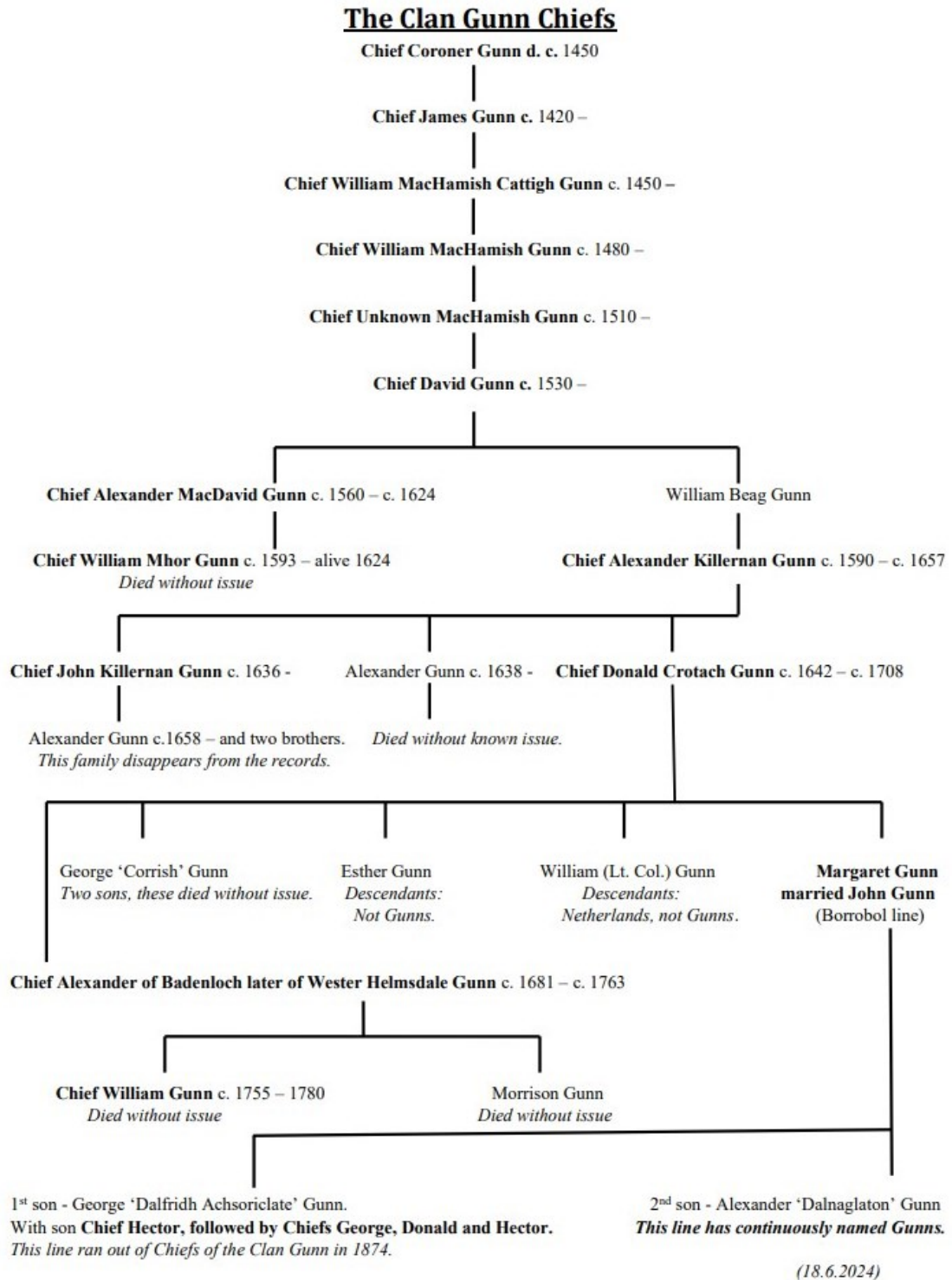
I have also dealt with this Clan Gunn Chief / Braehour line in various texts including my *The Gunns: History, Myths and Genealogy* and *Braehour Gunns: some lives, being descendants of John Gunn 1721-1810*.

This book repeats some material from *Braehour Gunns* – it has to as, already said, a Tormsdale Gunn marries into that line.

In summary, the original book *Scotland and Beyond; the Families of Donald Gunn (Tormsdale) and John Gunn (Dalnaha, Strathmore and Braehour)* has been split (and updated) into two parts which makes much more sense.

Alastair Gunn

The Clan Gunn Chiefs



Introduction to the First Edition

Donald Gunn and Alastair Gunn

It is with a mixture of relief and trepidation that we present this book. It is something which we have worked on over many years and for one of us it is based on detailed material held within the family and worked on by generations. We are aware of shortcomings; this book is certainly not a simple read. It is a book to be explored—mined—to find material for other projects. It is best to view it, perhaps, as an old fashioned ‘Papers relating to a Gunn family.’

Some points to note before proceeding—

- We wish to thank many people; most importantly, as already mentioned, Sharon and Bill Gurney. But many others have helped including Wendy Gunn, David Gunn, Edith Gunn Christoe, Susanne Christoe, Caroline Cottrell, Jan Wilkinson, Dorothy Jenkin, Iain Gunn, Roy and Carol Small, Judy Meyer, Bill Loader, the Learmonth and District Historical Society, Dundee City Archives, Catherine Sinclair, Judy Surman, Judy Meyer, Debbie Kuzub, Carol Small and all those responsible for the invention of the computer, family tree programs and the internet without whom this book would never have been possible.
- There are numbers against many names; for example Donald Gunn in Tormsdale (262). This is because genealogical programs assign unique identification numbers to people, and we have kept these numbers for clarity. Hence, if people contact us we can be clear about the individual in question (one wonders how many distinct Donald Gunns are in this book?). Note the meaning of the words ‘in’ and ‘of’ when applied to people; ‘in’ means ‘residing’ and ‘of’ means ownership or, more accurately, the adult responsible for the leased property. We have tried to use these words in the correct way but we may not always have been accurate.
- We have not always entered Canada, Scotland or Australia; we have mainly done so when it is not clear from context. We have also used abbreviations for many places which we hope are self-evident (or rapidly become so); Vic for Victoria in Australia, Twp for Township in Canada being two examples.
- Some places, especially in Scotland, have defied being located; we note Inishmull and Loravack as examples. We assume transcription errors have been made but some names may have changed over time and been lost.
- Spelling errors, in original documents, have been retained.
- In the family trees and charts we have excluded living people.
- We are aware of the difficulties presented by repetition and lack of an Index but we have decided it is much better to present that which we have, rather than toil indefinitely in the hope of perfection.
- Images of documents may have been resized as we have tried to ensure legibility. These images may also have been cropped (they are often more ripped than they seem—many bills appear to have been written on scrap paper) or enhanced.

Some Ramblings of a Very Amateur Australian Genealogist

by Donald Gunn²

Uncle came to visit when I was a boy. I remember it well, for he drove a Singer motor car. Nobody in our family had a car except grandfather, but he was old and I cannot recall the car ever leaving the stables. They were still called the stables, even though there had been no horses for many years. It was summer. The car had no roof and red upholstery. It had a dicky seat. And Uncle Norman took me for a drive. The memory of that drive around the block, sitting in the dicky seat, has never left me.

I never saw Uncle Norman again. I know now that he died only a few years later, but it was many years before I wondered exactly who Uncle Norman was. There were lots of uncles and aunts, but I had no idea how they fitted. Maybe it was a budding engineer's understanding that everything needed to fit somewhere, but I started to create charts to visualise the links.

Various old relatives had scraps of paper tucked away in drawers on which someone, they thought their grandfather perhaps, had written down the names of his brothers and sisters, and maybe parents. They never seemed to correlate, and my charts languished. Then computers were invented, and imaginative people modified database programs to create genealogical software. Suddenly, everything could be recorded, kept together and visualised. And it was.

Once close relatives had been recorded, and assigned their proper place, it became a matter of contacting more distant relatives. I knew many second cousins when we were children, but with time contact had withered. Gradually though a record of the descendants of my great grandfather, who came to Australia in the mid 1850s, took shape. An early surprise was that descendants of great grandfather's daughters were not as keen to assist as the descendants of the sons. By now, for female descendants, the Gunn name was in the distant past, and irrelevant to the present. Nevertheless, eventually 428 of great-grandfather Donald Gunn's descendants were recorded down to the seventh generation.

We produced a chart which included a photo of great-grandfather. It was almost three and a half metres long, rolled into a cylinder. Not for display on the wall of a suburban house. It was popular, and many in the family ordered copies.

Uncle Norman was there. He was one of great grandfather's sons and had never married. He had volunteered, as was the case for all Australian servicemen, for the army in 1915 at the age of 42. He was evacuated from Gallipoli, wounded during the Somme battles, and returned to Australia a corporal in 1918. I have no other information about him except the date and place of his birth and death. There are no known photographs; he is not mentioned in any letters; he did not make a name for himself in any way; perhaps an address or two could be found from old telephone books or electoral rolls, but that is probably all. Nothing to conjure up an image of how he lived or what he did. Nothing except his military record at the National Archives of Australia and the memory of a Singer motor car.

Details of some of great grandfather's ancestors were also in the database. The eldest son of the eldest son of the eldest son of great grandfather's eldest son possessed papers and old letters from the early 1800s, which not only included details of ancestors, but letters to cousins and siblings that enabled more names to be added.

Sources available to the amateur genealogist are many and varied, but records from before Britain started registering births and other details in 1837 are sparse. The pages of old parish registers had been photographed by the Church of Latter Day Saints and made available on searchable CDs. These were

²Being a slight modification of an article which was published in 'The Gunn Herald,'" No.70, October 2006 — the journal of the UK Clan Gunn Society.

wonderful, but could create more problems than answers, for there would inevitably be records of several different families with the same parental names christening their children. I suspect many amateur genealogists have been guilty of recording as fact what was really wishful thinking.

The first British census was in 1841, and this is the real starting point for the amateur interested in moving back as far as possible. Like the parish records, the pages of each census had been photographed and, while readable page by page from reels of film, the data had not been entered into a searchable format. It now has, and it is wonderful. I now know that on 6 June 1841 there were 1,365 persons named Gunn and one named Gun recorded as residing in Caithness, and 465 persons named Gunn and 21 named Gun residing in Sutherland. Maybe this was well known to others, but to me it was a revelation. While history told that many Gunns had already emigrated, particularly after the clearances, many still intended to, and did. And these from the 1,852 left in the clan's home counties!

And in a moment of vanity, I found that 89 of the 633 males in Caithness went by the name of Donald Gunn.



Tormsdale 2011



Tormsdale 2011

Part 1—Donald Gunn, Tormsdale;³ a life and descendant chart

Donald Gunn, Tormsdale, a life

1. Donald Gunn in Tormsdale (262) was born circa 1750 in Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He married Janet McKenzie of Dunbeath (703) on 19 Feb 1782 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁴ He died circa 1844⁵ in Caithness.⁶ Janet McKenzie of Dunbeath (703) was born circa 1765.⁷ She died after 1826 as she was alive when their son Hugh wrote to his parents Donald and Janet absolving them of his inheritance rights. See pages 32-33. Janet's brother was probably William Gunn of Jamaica (pages 42-48) who wrote to his nephew Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin (1) – see his detail and who also may have encouraged William Gunn (297) to emigrate to Jamaica. See pages 253-256.

Children of Donald Gunn in Tormsdale (262) and Janet McKenzie of Dunbeath (703) were:

- i. **John GUNN** (293) was christened on 18 Jan 1783 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁸ He was born before Jan 1783 in Caithness.⁹ He died before 1784.
- ii. **John GUNN**, Tormsdale (294).
- iii. **Hugh Gunn**, Tormsdale (295).
- iv. **Alexander GUNN**, Bualchork and Brawlbin (1).
- v. **George GUNN**, Tormsdale (804).
- vi. **Donald GUNN**, Bualchork (296).
- vii. **William GUNN** (297)¹⁰ was born in 1799 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹¹ He was christened on 12 Mar 1799 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹²
- viii. **Christian GUNN**, Owen Sound (602).
- ix. **Marcus GUNN**, Owen Sound (298).

These children provide the chapters of this book.

³Tormsdale is ‘Tomnadale’; c. 5 buildings shown W Roy 1747-55. ... (later) a mortared farmhouse ruin of presumed 19th century date with associated footings and enclosures, some of which appear to pre-date the farmhouse.... Visited by OS 16 March 1982 ... A township comprising three roofed buildings, one of which is a long building, six unroofed buildings, three of which are long buildings, two enclosures, a sheepfold and some field walls are depicted on the 1st edition of the OS 6-inch map (Caithness 1876, sheet xxii). Eight unroofed buildings and four enclosures are shown on the current edition of the OS 1:10,560 map (1963). Information from RCAHMS (SAH) 27 November 1995’ http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/search_item/index.php?service=RCAHMS&id=8250 The 1841 census recorded three households at Tormsdale, none of them named.

Tormsdale, 2011, can be found from Westerdale village. There is a rough fishing track near the Church, which winds along the river from the centre of the village. Tormsdale consisted, in 2011, of one run down house (see the title page and front cover) and some ruins.

⁴*The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*, CD-ROM, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk; Letter from Colin Gunn, Clan Gunn genealogist, to Donald Gunn, Jan 1998 banns read 19 Feb 1782.

⁵See Brawlbin receipts page 49 on.

⁶Donald was alive in 1826 when his son Hugh (295) wrote to him, but Donald is not recorded on the 1841 and 1851 censuses. Another son, Marcus (298), wrote letters which from 1842 do not mention either parent. Marcus was living with a brother, and later also his sister Christian (602), by 1841.

⁷*LDS Church*, The parents of all Janet McKenzies born in Caithness or Sutherland between 1760 and 1770: Angus/---, Janet christened 17 Jun 1760, Dunnet, CAI, Angus/---, Janet christened 1 Apr 1770, Dunnet, CAI, David/Ann Waiter, Janet christened 12 Jul 1768, Watter, CAI, George/Isabel Smith, Janet christened 25 Sep 1768, Thurso, CAI, Hector/---, Janet christened 3 Aug 1769, Lairg, SUT. We have no evidence to prefer any as the parents of Janet.

⁸LDS Church

⁹LDS Church

¹⁰LDS Church

¹¹LDS Church

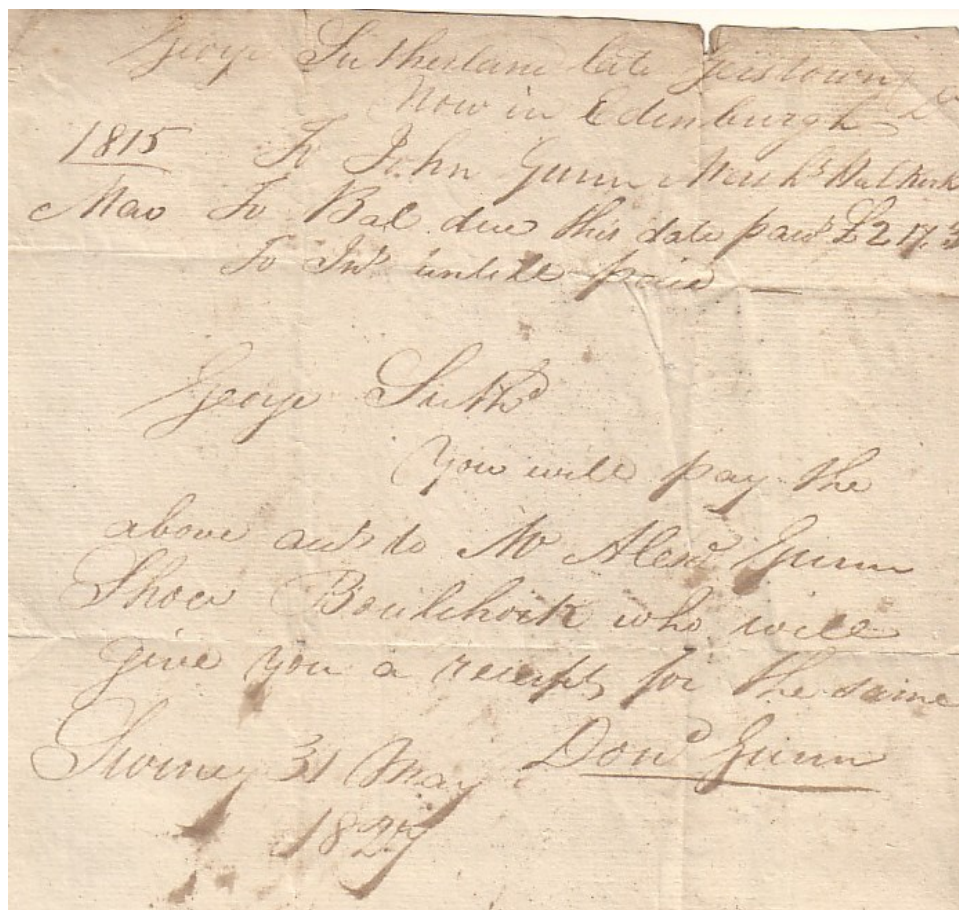
¹²LDS Church

Only a few documents¹³ exist relating to the earliest period and these are, not unsurprisingly, bills. In some ways the most interesting is—

George Sutherland late Guisborne
Now in Edinburgh D^r

1815 To John Gunn Mercht Halkirk
Nov To Bal due this date Paid £2 17.3
To Int until paid---

George Suth^d
You will pay the
Above acct to Mr Alex^r Gunn
Shoer Boulchork who will
Give you a receipt for the same
Don^d Gunn
Swiney 31 May
1827




George Sutherland late Guisborne
Now in Edinburgh D^r
1815 To John Gunn Mercht Halkirk
Nov To Bal due this date paid £2 17.3
To Int until paid---

George Suth^d
You will pay the
above acct to Mr Alex^r Gunn
Shoer Boulchork who will
give you a receipt for the same
Swiney 31 May Don^d Gunn
1827

¹³It is possible that some of these documents refer to Donald Gunn (708) the sennachie (historian), father of Barbara Gunn (6) who married into the Tormsdale family, but given that no other documents from him are in my possession and that she predeceased her father it is considered unlikely.

It was quite possible to run bills for long periods of time; the next is for the period October 10, 1832 to May 26 1834 being paid sometime in 1854, as shown by the date and the fiscal stamp. The gap in time seems amazing but the blue stamp was only issued in 1853. The bill is for assorted raw materials associated with clothing / dress making—shirting, moleskin, white cotton, canvas, tweed, doeskin, black silk etc.. It was payable to MacDonald and Co. The total was for £11.10.10. Was this just to dress the family in that period or was someone a dressmaker / tailor?

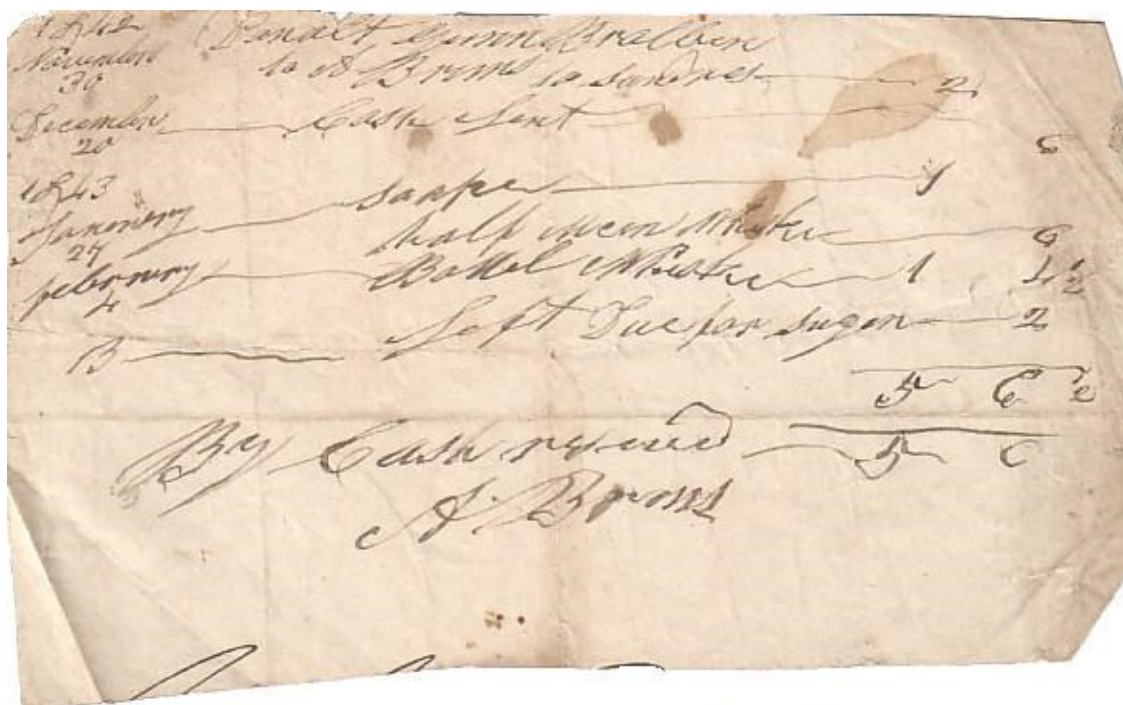
Mr. Donald Linn Braulbin
1832
To Mr. McDonald of
Oct 10 To 2 yds fine BM Venetian c 9/6 18 "
" 1 yd Canvas 3/- Padding to 1 yd Cotton 6/- 1 3
" 1 yd BM Cotton 5/- 1 yd Skirt Lining 1/2 1 7
" 1 yd Silk & Lint - 7 Butts, 2 Day tape set 1 2
" 1 yd Doeskin & Furmishings 10 "
" 1 yd Cotton 3/6 - 3 yds Blue Stripe 1/10 5 4
" 1 yd 3/- 1 yd Drab Kersey 2/6 2 9
" 1 yd Lint 3/- Silk Lint & Thread 1/2 1 2
Design 18 yds Shirting Stripe 6 10 12
14 yds White Cotton 6 7 7
6 yds Mole skin 1/8 10 "
4 yd Cotton 1/6 1 yd Canvas 7 2 1
2 yds pearls 7 6 6 worsted 2/- 2 7 1/2
3 yds Blue Pilot Cloth c 1/6 1 3 7
1 yd Canvas 6/- 1 yd BM Cotton 10 1 4
1 yd Salu Tarsan 2/9 1 yd Cotton 9 3 6
1 yd BM Canvas 6/- 1 yd Lint 10 1 4
Silk & Lint 10/- Butts for Coat about 11 1 9
1 yd Lint 3/2 9 yds Stripe 4/6 7 8
24 1 yd Swauken Cotton 3/1 1 yd Cotton 8 3 8
1 yd 3/1 Furmishings 1/6 4 6
2 yd Cotton 9/- 9 yds Shirting 6/9 7 6
3 yd Lint Cotton 1/9 4 yds Lint 3/9 3 6
2 yd Cotton 2 yds 1/4 Lape 2 3 Hat & Box 8/6 9 10
May 7 - 3 14 Brot Iron - 7 - 2 4

1833 Ant Brot Ford £ 7 3.4
 Aug 20 To 2yd Blk Venetian 18¹ - Furnishings 1. 2. 6
 Sep " Balance of Blk Dresses — " 18.0
 1834
 Jan 23 To Lincdres for Self — " 1. 9
 May 26 - 16yd Black Dick c 2/7 2. 1 4
 Gray Lincdres Cotton 4 " 2 2
 1 1/2yd Cotton 10 1/2 1yd 20-5 " 1. 5 1/2
 Bond 2 Atlet P Lincdres 2 1/2 " 5 1/2
 1854
 June 30 By Cash  11-10-10
 Wm McDonald

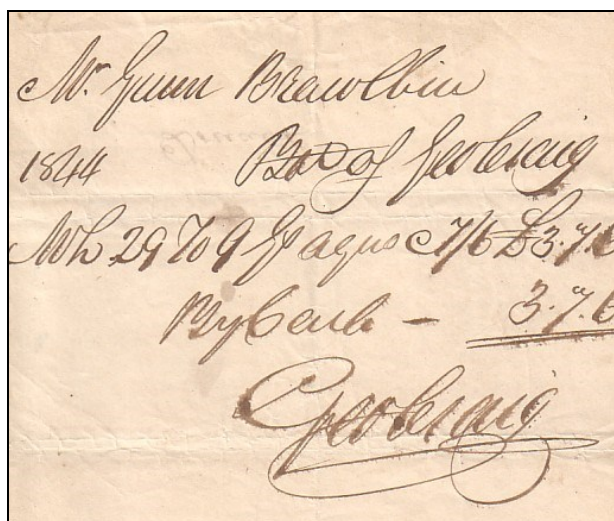
Donald

Donald's signature

But there are other essentials of life. The next bill covers the period November 30 1842 (starting paying off the previous bill) to February 13 1843 and is much less well presented (and spelt) than the previous bill. One can read across the top Donald Gunn Bralbin and various items—‘January 27 Supper 1/-’, ‘February 4 Barrel Whiske 1/4½ d and ‘... sugar’ in the last item. Paid by cash...



There is one final bill left concerning Donald Gunn¹⁴ of Tormsdale (262). It has the name Donald clearly written on the other side which is also shown (the sizes are not comparative). This clearly shows Donald to be alive. Is it from the Bar of Geo. Craig?



¹⁴To repeat an earlier point—it is possible this bill refers to Donald the Sennachie who was also living at Brawlbin at this time but given that all other documents relate to the Tormsdale Gunn line, this seems unlikely.

Descendant chart

Donald Gunn Tormsdale (262), b. circa 1750 Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. c. 1840 Caithness
 +**Janet MCKENZIE** of Dunbeath (703), b. circa 1765, m. 19 Feb 1782 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. after 1826

— **John GUNN** (293), b. before Jan 1783 Caithness, d. before 1784
 — **John GUNN Tormsdale** (294), b. 1784 Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 29 Apr 1857

Backlass, Watten Parish, Caithness

— +**Anne / Ann GRANT** (3208), b. c. 1799, m. 2 Apr 1818 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 22 Apr 1877
 Banniskirk, Halkirk Parish, Caithness

— **Janet GUNN** (3211), b. 1820 Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. before 1824
 — **Margaret GUNN** (3212), b. 1821 Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness
 — **Janet GUNN** (3213), b. c. 1826 Caithness
 — **Hector GUNN** (3214), b. 1826 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 13 Mar 1904 Newlands, Watten Parish, Caithness

— **Donald GUNN** Olgrinbeg & Owen Sound (3215), b. 1828 Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 21 Apr 1895 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario

— +**Janet MACKAY of Braehour** (3118), b. 1827 Caithness, m. 4 Jun 1852 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 15 Dec 1914 Grey, Grey Co., Ontario

— **Angus Grant GUNN** (3218), b. 1850 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 27 Feb 1864 Badnallie, Watten Parish, Caithness

— **Annie GUNN** (3134), b. 1852 Caithness, d. 1880 Owen Sound, Ontario
 — +**James ADAMS** (3219), m. 1877 Owen Sound, Ontario
 — **Margaret GUNN** (3135), b. 1855 Caithness, d. 4 May 1942 Owen Sound, Ontario
 — **Neil GUNN** (3136), b. 1857 Ontario, d. 22 May 1931 Sydenham, Ontario
 — +**Catherine CAMERON** (3143), b. 1873 Glengarry Co, m. 1892, d. 1928 Sydenham, Ontario
 — **Allan Alexander GUNN** (3145), b. circa 1894, d. 1951
 — **Angus William GUNN** (3146), b. 1898, d. 1956 Sydenham, Ontario
 — **John GUNN** (3137), b. Oct 1859 Ontario, d. 28 Dec 1875
 — **Donald McKay GUNN** (3138), b. 1861 Ontario, d. 1926
 — **Angus Hector GUNN** (3142), b. 1864 Ontario, d. 1940 Prince George, British Colombia
 — **Barbara Janet GUNN** (3139), b. 14 Sep 1866 Ontario, d. 27 Apr 1931 Ontario
 — +**William James CARNAHAN** (3147), b. 1869, d. 1948
 — **Margaret CARNAHAN** (3148)
 — **Jemima GUNN** (3140), b. 1870 Ontario, d. 1870 Ontario
 — **William James GUNN** (3141), b. 1871 Ontario, d. 10 Aug 1890 Ontario
 — **Helen GUNN** (3216), b. 1835 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 1931 Newton Moss, Watten Parish, Caithness.

— +**Archibald SINCLAIR** (3217), m. circa 1856
 — **John William SINCLAIR** (3220), b. 1858 Latheron Parish, Caithness
 — **George SINCLAIR** (3221), b. 1860 Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. before 1869
 — **Janet SINCLAIR** (3222), b. 1862 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **William G R SINCLAIR** (3223), b. 1863 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **Elizabeth SINCLAIR** (3224), b. 1865 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **Ann SINCLAIR** (3225), b. 1867 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **George SINCLAIR** (3226), b. 1869 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **Hector SINCLAIR** (3227), b. 1871 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **Archibald SINCLAIR** (3228), b. 1873 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **Daniel G SINCLAIR** (3229), b. 1876 Watten Parish, Caithness
 — **Hugh Gunn** in Tormsdale (295), b. 1787 Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d between 1841-1851 Halkirk Parish, Caithness

— +**Henrietta MCGREGOR** of Dalnawillan (752), b. 1795, m. 28 Oct 1814, d. 15 Apr 1890 Houstry, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness

| — **William GUNN** (807), chr. 24 Sep 1815 Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness
 | — **Janet GUNN** (3230), chr. 4 Apr 1817 Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 15 Aug 1890
 Houstry, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness
 | — **Catherine GUNN** (3231), chr. 10 Jan 1819 Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness d. 1913 Lybster,
 Latheron Parish, Caithness
 | — **Helen GUNN** (3232), b. 29 Sep 1822 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness
 | — **Christina GUNN** (3233), b. 1825 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 24 Apr 1863 Houstry,
 Dunbeath Parish, Caithness
 | — **Henrietta GUNN** (3234), b. 1827 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness
 | — **Donald GUNN** (3235), b. 1829 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 1912 Latheron Parish,
 Caithness
 | — **Mary GUNN** (3236), b. 1835 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness
 | — **John GUNN** (3237), chr. 10 Feb 1837 Wick Parish, Caithness
 | — **Alexander GUNN** (3238), chr. 27 Jul 1839 Wick Parish, Caithness
 | + **Christina GUNN** (3239), m. 1893 Latheron Parish, Caithness
 | — **Henrietta GUNN** (808), b. 1894
 | — **Alexander M K GUNN** (3240), b. 1896
 | — **Alexander GUNN** Bualchork and Brawlbin¹⁵ (1), b. 4 Jun 1789 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 29 Mar
 1847¹⁶ Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness
 | + **Barbara GUNN**¹⁷ Braehour (6), b. 17 Apr 1810 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, m. 19 Mar 1829 Halkirk
 Parish, Caithness, d. 28 Feb 1844, Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness. *Clan Gunn Chief line.*
 | — **Catherine GUNN** (119), b. 13 May 1830 Reay Parish, Caithness, d. 1912 Vic
 | + **James MILLER** (117), b. 1826 Wick Parish, Caithness, m. 13 Mar 1857 Buninyong, Vic, d. 1918
 Vic
 | — **Elizabeth MILLER** (278), b. 1858 Geelong, Vic, d. 1918 Vic
 | — **Alexander Gunn MILLER** (279), b. 1860 Geelong, Vic, d. 1938 Apollo Bay, Vic
 | — **John William Gunn MILLER** (280), b. 1862 Geelong, Vic, d. 1925 St Kilda, Vic
 | — **Jessie Barbara MILLER** (284), b. 1865 Emerald Hill, Vic d. 1936 Devon, UK
 | + **Charles James SWEARS** (282), m. circa 1885 Vic or London 1892, d. 1927 Devon, UK
 | — **Hugh Miller SWEARS** (286), b. 1894, d. 1917 France
 | — **Marjorie Gertrude SWEARS**¹⁸ (287), b. 1896 London, d. 1948 Worcs. UK
 | — **Dorothy Catherine SWEARS**¹⁹ (4129), b. 1903
 | — **James Dunnet MILLER** (281), b. 1868 Emerald Hill, Vic, d. 1933 Heidelberg, Vic. married
 Lydia Beare.
 | — **Katherine Margaret Mackay MILLER** (285), b. 1872 Emerald Hill, Vic d. Sydney 11 Feb
 1951
 | — + **William Porter VINE** (283), b. 1857 Port Melbourne, Vic, m. 1895 Vic, d. 1923 Prahran, Vic
 | — **James Miller VINE**²⁰ (288), b. Dec 1896 St Kilda, Vic
 | — **William Alan VINE** (290), b. June 1898 St Kilda, Vic, d. 11 Oct 1917 Belgium.
 | — **Catherine Noel VINE** (291), b. 1900 St Kilda, Vic, d. 1903 Melbourne South, Vic
 | — **Francis Seymour VINE**²¹ (292), b. 1904 St Kilda, Vic, d. 1961 Somers, Vic

¹⁵It is also occasionally known as 'Braulbin' and can be found, as such, in various references; for example

http://www.ambaile.org.uk/gd/newspapers/search_results.jsp?newspaper=5&PrimarySubject=0&startyear=1834&endyear=*&keywords=&StartRow=26400&MaxRows=

The name seems to have derived from the ON compound appellative for 'broad field' also see

http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=ISppAAAAAMAAJ&q=brawlbin&dq=brawlbin&hl=en&ei=e6OkTJH3FsKSjAe7gemRDA&sa=X&oi=book_result&ct=result&resnum=9&ved=0CEgQ6AEwCDhG.

¹⁶A receipt for the rent of Brawlbin implies he died in 1844 and that Barbara was still alive in late 1845. See his life and documents in Part 2, 4b.

¹⁷'The John O'Groat Journal' published a birth on March 3, 1843-"Births-Gunn, Mrs Alex Brawlbin, a daughter." We have no other record for this child.

¹⁸She married the Rev. John Ernest Cocks Adams in Totnes, Devon in 1926. One son, Hugh Adams.

¹⁹She married John G. Ashford with son Charles Ashford and daughter Anne Ashford.

²⁰Doctor. Married Gwynneth Annie Archdall (3981) 1924, d. 25 Oct 1961, later he married Rosemary Caroline Stewart (1108) from whom at least one child was born, Patricia Louise Vine (1109) b. 1958, d. 1959 Fairfield Vic.

²¹Married Elizabeth Smith Cuming (3982) 1929 Vic, d. 1931 Malvern Vic. They had two children, James Miller Vine (898) c. 1930 and Elizabeth Vine (3987) b. c. 1930, d. 1931 Malvern, Vic.

— **Reginald Vernon VINE**²² (694), b. 1908 St Kilda, Vic, d. 21 Dec 1987 NSW
 — **Lesley Alison VINE**²³ (289), b. 1914 St Kilda, Vic, d. 1972
 — **Donald GUNN** of Brawlbin & Ballarat (3), b. 28 Mar 1832 Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, d. 14 Feb 1901 Ballarat, Vic²⁴
 — +**Jane SURMAN** (41), b. 18 Jan 1836 Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, m. 25 Mar 1859 Buninyong, Vic, d. 14 Feb 1908 Ballarat, Vic
 — **John Alexander GUNN (Hon.)** (32), b. 11 Feb 1860 Buninyong, Vic, d. 21 Sep 1910 Sydney, NSW
 — +**Jessie Marie TURNER**²⁵ (104), b. 1862 Beechworth, Vic, m. 1886 North Brighton, Vic, d. 1925 Randwick, NSW²⁶
 — **Gladys Emily GUNN** (225), b. 1887 North Brighton, Vic, d. 1968 Melbourne, Vic
 — **Jessie Jean GUNN** (221), b. 1890 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1891 NSW
 — **Alexander Donald GUNN** (222), b. 1892 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1956 Melbourne, Vic
 — **Angus William GUNN** (223), b. 1895 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1926 Perth, WA
 — **William Watkins GUNN** (33), b. 26 Dec 1861 Nr Ballarat, Vic, d. 24 Jun 1935 Crossover, Vic
 — +**Margaret Jane BALHARRIE** (42), b. 1860 Perth, Tayside, m. 1891 Bloomfield, Vic, d. 1946 Frankston, Vic
 — **John William GUNN** (133), b. 1895 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1981 Frankston, Vic
 — **Jean Margaret GUNN** (139), b. 1896 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1975 Glenhuntly, Vic
 — **Violet Helen GUNN** (141), b. 1898 Warragul, Vic, d. 1968 Frankston, Vic
 — **Edith Mary GUNN** (134), b. 1899 Warragul, Vic, d. 1901 Sandringham, Vic
 — **Marjorie May GUNN** (135), b. 1904 Warragul, Vic, d. 1970 Launching Place, Vic
 — **Marcus Allan GUNN** (136), b. 1906 Crossover, Vic, d. 1981 Melbourne, Vic
 — **Mary Jane GUNN** (34), b. 18 Jan 1864 Cardigan Nr Ballarat, Vic, d. 5 May 1934 Werribee, Vic
 — **Donald GUNN** (35), b. 20 Nov 1865 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 29 Dec 1933 Crossover, Vic
 — +**Amy Agnes WAREHAM** (43), b. Oct 1862 Cheshire, m. 1922 Middle Park, Vic, d. 1939 South Melbourne Vic
 — **Marcus Daniel GUNN** (36), b. 11 May 1868 Buninyong, Vic, d. 1 Dec 1952 South Yarra, Vic
 — +**Mary Jane CHENHALL**²⁷ (105), b. 1873 Chiltern, Vic, m. 1903 Corowa, NSW, d. 1941 Melbourne, Vic
 — **Keith Lindsay GUNN** (121), b. 1904 Corowa, NSW, d. 1967 Melbourne, Vic
 — **Norma Mary GUNN** (125), b. 1907 Corowa, NSW, d. 1971 Melbourne, Vic
 — **Barbara GUNN** (106), b. 20 Jun 1870 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 17 Jul 1941 Werribee, Vic
 — +**Isaac PADGETT** (103), b. 1867 Mount Cole, Vic, m. 1899 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1937 Werribee, Vic
 — **Barbara Gunn PADGETT** (184), b. 1901 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1960
 — **Norman Gunn PADGETT** (180), b. 1903 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1952 Princhester, Qld
 — **Jean Gunn PADGETT** (186), b. 1913 Vic, d. 2002
 — **Norman GUNN** (37), b. 11 May 1872 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 1944 Williamstown, Vic
 — **Hugh GUNN** (38), b. 28 Oct 1875 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 24 Jun 1879 Burrumbeet, Vic
 — **Arthur Gilbert GUNN** (9), b. 19 May 1878 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 18 Jun 1933 Ivanhoe, Vic
 — +**Louisa Maud Miriam RETALLICK** (10), b. 1875 Naseby, Otago, m. 1901 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1959 Elsternwick, Vic
 — **Malcolm Donald GUNN** (11), b. 1903 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1961 Heidelberg, Vic
 — **Kenneth Douglas GUNN** (23), b. 1905 Kalgoorlie, WA, d. 1951 Longreach, Qld
 — **Angus Norman GUNN** (24), b. 1912 Kalgoorlie, WA, d. 1994 Caringbah, NSW

²²He married Florence B. Bettington, one son two daughters.

²³Married Charles Herbert Locke (3983) 1936 Vic. Four children, 3 sons, one daughter.

²⁴Died at his residence 185 Lydiard Street Ballarat. <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/10535465?searchTerm=Gunn>

²⁵Jessie Maria Turner's father, William Turner, was a noted banker. He was second—and sometimes third—in charge of the Commercial Bank of Australia for many years in the 1890s and was also a pamphleteer. An uncle was the noted early Geelong photographer Joseph Turner; he later worked at the Melbourne Observatory with the Great Melbourne Telescope.

²⁶<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/16209653?searchTerm=Gunn> for the funeral notice.

²⁷Her brother was W.T. Chenhall M.D., M.B. B.S. F.R.C.S.. He was a notable Sydney surgeon until his death in 1923.

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/16112528?searchTerm=Gunn>

| | | — **Colin GUNN** (29), b. 1915 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1916 Ballarat, Vic
 | | | — **Catherine Alexandrina GUNN** (39), b. 13 Sep 1880 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 13 Aug 1960
 Ormond, Vic
 | | — **Janet MacLeod GUNN**²⁸ (120), b. 8 May 1834 Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, d. 30 May 1913
 Cardigan, Vic
 | | + **John Watkins SURMAN** (118), b. 9 Oct 1831 Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, m. 12 May 1864
 Cardigan, d. 11 Oct 1906 Ballarat, Vic
 | | | — **Unnamed SURMAN** (1550), b. Feb 1865 Ballarat, Vic, d. 24 Feb 1865 Ballarat, Vic
 | | | — **John Daniel SURMAN** (272), b. 1866 Cardigan, Vic, d. 1935 Dunolly, Vic
 | | | + **(Jessie²⁹) Margaret COWLEY** (1553), b. 1866, m. 1895, d. 1951 Geelong, Vic
 | | | — **Jessie Marguerite SURMAN**³⁰ (1554), b. 1896 Armadale, Vic, d. 1955 Geelong, Vic
 | | | — **Thomas William SURMAN** (1555), b. 1899 Carlton, Vic, d. 1965 Melbourne, Vic
 | | | — **Alexander Gunn SURMAN** (273), b. 1868 Ballarat, Vic, d. Dec 1909 Ballarat, Vic
 | | | + **Esther KIRK** (676), b. 1864, m. 16 Sept. 1891 Vic, d. 11 Mar. 1938 Cardigan, Vic
 | | | — **Jessie Beatrice SURMAN** (680), b. 1892 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1954 Caulfield, Vic³¹
 | | | — **Linda Pearl SURMAN** (682), b. 18 Sept. 1893 Ballarat, Vic³²
 | | | — **Eric SURMAN** (683), b. 17 Feb 1895 Haddon, nr Ballarat, Vic, d. 11 Jan. 1959 Ballarat,
 Vic³³
 | | | — **Stella SURMAN** (681), b. 1897 Haddon, Vic, d. 1968 Ballarat, Vic³⁴
 | | | — **Tettie SURMAN** (679), b. 1898 Ballarat, Vic³⁵
 | | | — **Reginald Gunn SURMAN** (678), b. 26 Sept. 1899 Haddon, Vic, d. 8 Aug. 1943 Ballarat,
 Vic³⁶
 | | | — **Margery SURMAN** (687), b. 1 Dec. 1904 Ballarat, Vic³⁷
 | | | — **Barbara Margaret McKay SURMAN** (274), b. 1870 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1928 Morwell, Vic
 | | | + **James BREWSTER** (1559), m. 1892
 | | | — **Renee Grace Daphne BREWSTER**³⁸ (1577), b. 1893 Learmonth, Vic
 | | | — **James William Ashley BREWSTER**³⁹ (1578), b. 1895 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1957 Sale, Vic
 | | | — **John Watkins Surman BREWSTER**⁴⁰ (1579), b. 1897 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1975 Leongatha,
 Vic
 | | | — **David Baxter BREWSTER** (1580), b. 1899 Yinnar, Vic
 | | | — **Janet Barbara BREWSTER** (1581), b. 1902 Yinnar, Vic
 | | | — **George Alan BREWSTER**⁴¹ (1582), b. 1904 Yinnar, Vic, d. 1985 Leongatha, Vic
 | | | — **Hugh Gordon BREWSTER**⁴² (1583), b. 1906 Leongatha, Vic, d. 1976 Leongatha, Vic
 | | | — **Oswald Geoffrey BREWSTER** (1584), b. 1912 Morwell, Vic
 | | | — **Robert Norman BREWSTER** (1585), b. 1913 Morwell, Vic
 | | — **Watkins SURMAN** (405), b. 1871 Sago Hill/Cardigan, Vic, d. 15 May 1875 Cardigan, Vic

²⁸We have kept the name Janet 'MacLeod.' Although we have no primary source for the name MacLeod it has been commonly used by members of her family after her death.

²⁹In 'Digger Death Index Victoria 1921-1985' the death notice for her daughter gives Jessie as the first name for the mother.

³⁰In 'Digger Death Index Victoria 1921-1985' Jessie Marguerite had a married name of Danier and she died in Geelong; her (second) husband was Gustav Danier (father Paul and mother Anna). He died in Geelong in 1958.

³¹Jessie Surman married William George Nathaniel Stephens (1556) in 1915 and they had children Joyce Wilma Stephens (3804) b. 1917 Elsternwick Vic and Edna Surman Stephens (3803) also b. 1917 Elsternwick Vic.

³²Linda Surman married George William Johnson (3801) 1923.

³³Eric Surman married Annie Walton (1557) b. 1897 d. 26 Jan 1965 Ballarat Vic. They had children: Alexander Geoffrey Surman (1558) b. 15 Jan 1923 Numurkah d. before 2008; Norma Surman (3004) b. after 1923 (who married 'unknown' Bell (3007); Joyce Surman (3005) b. after 1923 d. before 2008 and Elva Surman b. after 1923.

³⁴Stella Surman married David Draffin (2667) b. 1883 m. 1921 d. 1957 Ballarat. Their child was John Robert Draffin (3806) b. 1926 d. 1964.

³⁵Married Alfred Rupert Thompson (3802) b. 1898, m. 1929, d. 1984 Surrey Hills, Vic.

³⁶Married Eva Draffin (2868) b. 1906, m. 1928, d. 24 Oct. 1948 Ballarat Vic.

³⁷Margery Surman married James Clifford Sharp (995) b. 1903 m. 11 Mar. 1931 Ballarat Vic. d. 1968 Ballarat Vic.

³⁸Married Percy Osborne Scouler (2869), b. 1891, m. 1915, d. 1975 Heidelberg, Vic.

³⁹Married Elsie May Scouler (2870), 1926, with children Stanley Arthur Brewster (3989), b. 1918 Vic, d. 1975 Vic and Alan William Brewster (3988), b. 1924 Vic, d. 1978 Melbourne, Vic.

⁴⁰Married Marjory Letitia (unknown) (3773) before 1931.

⁴¹Married Edith Mary (unknown) (3808) c. 1930 Vic.

⁴²Married Jessie Isabella Reilly (3807) b. 1908, m. c.1930 d. 1982 Leongatha.

— **James William SURMAN** (275), b. 1873 Sago Hill, Vic, d. 5 Dec 1947 Horsham, Vic
 +**Alice Maud Grace CURTIS** (677), b. 1874 Buninyong, Vic, m. 1894 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1956
 Horsham, Vic

— **Grace Jessie Frances SURMAN** (684), b. 1895 Wonwondah South, Vic, d. 1895 Mount
 Jeffcott, Vic

— **Leslie Watkins SURMAN**⁴³ (685), b. 1896 Horsham, Vic, d. 1939 Scone NSW
 — **Hazel Marion SURMAN**⁴⁴ (686), b. 1901 Dunolly, Vic, d. 1984 Horsham, Vic
 — **Harry 'Jack' SURMAN**⁴⁵ (1561), b. 11.12.1917 Horsham, Vic, d. Drouin Vic 18.9.2006
 — **Irene Marian Catherine SURMAN** (693), b. 1874 Sago Hill, Vic, d. 1940 Melbourne, Vic
 +**William O'CONNOR** (692), m. 1918 Vic
 — **Theodore Oswald SURMAN** (276), b. 1876 Cardigan, Vic, d. 17 May 1918 Melbourne South,
 Vic

— **Geoffrey Eustace SURMAN** (277), b. 29 Jun 1878 Sago Hill, Vic, d. Jul 1951 Heidelberg, Vic
 +**Winifred May LITTLEHALES** (458), b. 1892 Vic, m. 25 Apr 1917 Ballarat, Vic, d. c. 20 April
 1920 Ballarat, Vic

— **Geoffrey Oswald SURMAN** (4), b. 1918 Ballarat, Vic, d. Mar 1921 Sale, Vic
 — **John Watkins SURMAN**⁴⁶ (689), b. 10 Apr 1920 Ballarat, Vic, d. 28 Sep 1996 Brisbane,
 Qld

+**Ethel Stella TODD** (1552), b. 1901, m. 1926
 — **John GUNN** (12), b. 12 Feb 1836 Reay Parish, Caithness, d. c. Dec 1854 Port Melbourne, Vic
 — **William GUNN** (220), b. 10 Jan 1839 Reay Parish, Caithness, d. after 15 Jun 1864 Vic
 — **George GUNN** Tormsdale (804), b. 1795 Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 19 Sep 1868
 Swiney Mains, Latheron Parish, Caithness

+**Ann MCDONALD** (942), b. c. 1801 Reay Parish, Sutherland, m. 9 Jan 1821 Halkirk Parish, Caithness,
 d. 15 Apr 1878 Swiney Mains, Latheron Parish, Caithness

— **William GUNN** Bualchork (3175), b. 1822 Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 13 Sep 1899
 Rangag Forse, Latheron Parish, Caithness

— **Margaret GUNN** (3176), b. 1824 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 15 Jun 1895 Dunbeath, Caithness
 — **Hugh GUNN** (3177), b. 7 Jul 1825 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
 — **Janet GUNN** (3193), b. 1827 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 23 Sep 1911 Knockglass, Dunbeath
 Parish, Caithness

+**John MACKAY** (3194), b. 1811 Latheron Parish, Caithness, m. 18 Feb 1853 Halkirk Parish,
 Caithness, d. 23 Dec 1899 Rangag Forse, Latheron Parish, Caithness

— **Neil MACKAY** (3202), b. c. 1854
 — **Ann MACKAY** (3203), b. 1856 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 1891 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
 — **Margaret MACKAY** (3204), b. 1857 Latheron Parish, Caithness
 — **Mary MACKAY** (3303), b. 8 Jan 1860 Rangag Forse, Latheron Parish, Caithness
 — **John MACKAY** (3207), b. 1862 Latheron Parish, Caithness
 — **Isabella Helen MACKAY** (3206), b. 1866 Latheron Parish, Caithness

— **Donald GUNN** (3195), b. 1829 Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. Halkirk Parish, Caithness
 — **Mary GUNN** (3196), b. 1831 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 10 Dec 1904 Caithness
 — **Helen GUNN** (3197), b. 1834 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 1 Feb 1909 Caithness
 +**Charles M MUNRO** (3198), b. 1833 Wick Parish, Caithness, d. 1921 Latheron Parish, Caithness
 — **Isabella GUNN** (3199), b. 7 Nov 1836 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 12 Mar 1866 Caithness
 — **Donald GUNN** (3200), b. 10 Jul 1840 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 1895 Latheron Parish,
 Caithness

+**Mary Ann MUNRO** (3201)
 — **Donald GUNN Bualchork** (296), b. 1796 Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness
 +**Ann MACKAY** (3244), b. c. 1809 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, m. 2 Feb 1827 Halkirk Parish, Caithness

⁴³Married Eileen Avonia Fletcher (3776) b. 1902, m. 1931 Newcastle, d. 1947 Parkville, Vic. They had two daughters.

⁴⁴She married Robert Devlin 1884-1947 (1560) in 1925 and had three children; Jean, Jeffrey Watkins and Thomas Devlin.

⁴⁵A Surman Court exists at Jeeralang Junction and at Drouin, both of which were developed by Jack Surman and his son Gary Surman. He married Maude Elizabeth Hodges / Roadley and had children.

⁴⁶Married Audrey Braker (1551) 28 June 1947.

- **Hector GUNN** (3245), b. 1827 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- **Donald GUNN** (3246), b. 1829 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- **Janet GUNN** (3247), b. 1831 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- **Helen GUNN** (3248), b. 1833 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- **Margaret GUNN** (3249), b. 1835 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- **John GUNN (Sir)** of Tormsdale (3250), b. 28 Oct 1837 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 20 Jan 1918

Cardiff, Glamorgan

- +**Sarah Jane HILL** (3311), m. 1871 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1875
- **John Donald GUNN** (3314), b. 1872 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1872 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Herbert Oswald GUNN** (3315), b. 1873 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Arthur Hill GUNN** (3316), b. 1875 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- +**Harriette BOYLE** (3312), b. c. 1846 Ballymacrea, Antrim, m. 1877 Belfast, d. 1914 Newport,

Monmouthshire

- **Annie Boyle GUNN** (3317), b. 1879 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- +**Frederick George PENNY** (3318), m. 1905 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Winifred Mackay GUNN** (3319), b. 1879 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- +**Francis Brodie LODGE** (3320), b. 1880, m. 1909 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1967
- **Olive Mildred GUNN** (3323), b. 1881 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Elsie Maud GUNN** (3324), b. 1882 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Hester Boyle GUNN** (3325), b. 1885 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **John Boyle GUNN** (3327), b. 1888 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Marjorie Lilian GUNN** (3326), b. 1889 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- +**Frederic STRATTON** (3328), m. 1913 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Christina GUNN** (3251), b. 1839 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- **Marcus GUNN** (3252), b. 5 May 1842 Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. Sep 1899 Cardiff,

Glamorgan

- +**Mary Elizabeth YEANDLE** (3313), b. 1855, m. 1877 Shurdington, Gloucestershire
- **Ernest GUNN** (3329), b. 1878 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1916 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Beatrice McKay GUNN** (3330), b. 1880 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **Marcus Sinclair GUNN** (3331), b. 1890 Cardiff, Glamorgan
- **George GUNN** (3253), b. 5 May 1842 Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. before 1851

Halkirk Parish, Caithness

- **William GUNN**⁴⁷ (297), b. 1799 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- **Christian GUNN** Owen Sound (602), b. Jan 1802 Halkirk Parish, Caithness
- +**Alexander SUTHERLAND** Inshag (3119), b. c. 1800 Caithness, m. 23 Dec 1825 Latheron Parish,

Caithness

- **Christina SUTHERLAND** (3130), b. 1826 Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 3 Jan 1900
- +**John MUNRO** (3166), m. c. 1850⁴⁸
- **Donald SUTHERLAND** (3127), b. 1828 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 12 May 1856
- **Janet SUTHERLAND** (3256), b. 1830 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 1830 Caithness
- **Ann SUTHERLAND** (3129), b. 10 Sep 1831 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 14 Aug 1914

Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario

- **Janet SUTHERLAND** (3131), b. 6 Jul 1833 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 28 Feb 1908
- +**James MACKAY** (3167), m. 2 Feb 1860⁴⁹
- **Ellen SUTHERLAND** (3120), b. 21 Jul 1835 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 27 Apr 1910
- +**Hugh GORDON** (3121), b. 11 Dec 1830, m. 1855, d. 24 Oct 1915⁵⁰
- **Alexander GORDON** (3122), b. 18 Jun 1857, d. 1 Jul 1926

⁴⁷It is possible that William emigrated to Jamaica by 1819, see pages 42-48.

⁴⁸With children John Munro b. c. 1852, Donald Munro, b. c. 1854, Margaret Munro, b. c. 1856, Christina Munro, b. c. 1858.

⁴⁹With children Alexander MacKay, b. c. 1862, Catherine Innes MacKay, b. c. 1864, George MacKay, b. c. 1866, Wilhelmina MacKay, b. c. 1868.

⁵⁰With other children: Mary Gordon, b. 2 Jan 1856, d. 2 Nov 1898, Charles Gordon, b. 20 Feb 1859, d. c. 1930, John Gordon, b. 11 Jan 1861, d. 13 Mar 1926, Christina Gordon, b. 19 Nov 1862, d. 12 Apr 1949, Donald Gordon, b. 14 Apr 1865, d. 16 Jan 1952, Thomas Gordon, b. 18 Jan 1867, d. 19 Aug 1934, Ann Sutherland Gordon, b. 31 Dec 1868, d. 1 Apr 1958, Elizabeth Gordon, b. 30 Dec 1872, d. 4 Feb 1935, Hugh Gordon, b. 5 Dec 1875, d. 10 Oct 1938.

| | +? **FOSTER** (3125)
 | | | — **Ellen GORDON** (3123)
 | — **Williamina SUTHERLAND** (3132), b. 12 May 1838 Caithness, d. 2 Jul 1927 Grey, Grey Co.,
 Ontario
 | | — **Catherine SUTHERLAND** (3133), b. 9 Jun 1839 Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 6 Apr
 1900
 | | | +**George MACDONALD** (3168), b. 1833, m. 1871, d. 31 Jan 1871 Grey, Grey Co., Ontario⁵¹
 | | | — **John SUTHERLAND** (3128), b. Feb 1842 Wentworth Co., Ontario, d. 17 Mar 1904
 | — **Marcus GUNN** Owen Sound (298), b. 1805 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. May 1878 Owen Sound,
 Ontario
 | +**Barbara MACKAY** (3111), b. 1814 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, m. 4 Jan 1850 Sydenham, Grey Co.,
 Ontario, d. 23 Dec 1881 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario
 | | — **Janet GUNN** (3113), b. 1851 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 1 May 1900 Owen Sound, Ontario
 | | +**Herbert William JENKINS** (3117), b. 5 Dec 1850, m. 26 Dec 1876 Owen Sound, Ontario, d. 25
 Mar 1941
 | | | — **Herbert Claude Marcus JENKINS** (3160), b. 30 Nov 1877 Keppel, Grey Co., Ontario
 | | | +**Agnes Jane BROWN** (3290), b. 1877, m. 1902 Owen Sound, Ontario
 | | | | — **Cecil Herbert JENKINS** (2871), b. 1903 Owen Sound, Ontario
 | | | | — **Nora Gertrude JENKINS** (3310), b. 1903 Owen Sound, Ontario
 | | | — **Eva Elizabeth JENKINS** (3159), b. 3 Apr 1880 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 15 Nov 1973
 Owen Sound, Ontario
 | | | — **Norah Blanche JENKINS** (3308), b. 24 Jan 1884 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 20 Oct 1885
 Owen Sound, Ontario
 | | — **Margaret GUNN** (3112), b. 1852 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 29 May 1920 Sarawak, Grey
 Co., Ontario
 | +**James Lindsay BOYD** (3116), b. 20 Apr 1848, m. 21 Dec 1871, d. Dec 1918
 | | — **William John BOYD** (3153), b. 25 Dec 1872 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 1 Feb 1886
 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario
 | | — **Barbara Jane BOYD** (3152), b. 22 Aug 1875 Sydenham, Ontario, d. 26 Aug 1973 Greenwood,
 Ontario
 | | +**David REILLY** (3156), b. 1869 Ontario, m. 1897 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 1924 Owen
 Sound, Ontario
 | | — **Marcus Gunn BOYD** (3155), b. 2 Mar 1878 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario
 | | +**Henrietta REILLY** (3158), b. 1878 Ontario, m. 1903 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 1929
 Empress, Alberta
 | | | — **Opal Eileen BOYD** (3287), b. c. 1905
 | | | — **Harold Elliott BOYD** (3288), b. c. 1907
 | | — **Robert John BOYD** (3150), b. 23 Feb 1880 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 12 Nov 1939 Owen
 Sound, Ontario
 | | +**Sarah Alice COOK** (3157), b. 1887, d. 1968
 | | | — **James Henry Robert BOYD** (3268), b. 1910 Sydenham, Ontario, d. 1952
 | | | — **Norman BOYD** (3165), b. after 1911, d. after 1952
 | | | — **Earl BOYD** (3269), b. after 1911, d. after 1952
 | | | — **William James BOYD** (3270), b. after 1911, d. after 1952
 | | | — **Edna BOYD** (3271), b. after 1911
 | | — **Catherine Margaret BOYD** (3154), b. 21 Jul 1882 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario, d. 30 Mar
 1906 Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario

⁵¹With child: Jessie MacDonald, b. c. 1871.

Part 2—The descendants of Donald Gunn, Tormsdale.

1. **First Child - John GUNN** (293) Donald's first son was John (293) who was born in 1783 and died in the same year or possibly 1784. This birth was in the year after Donald's (292) marriage.

2. **Second Child - John GUNN** (294)⁵² was born in 1784 in Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁵³ He was christened in Jun 1784 in Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He married Anne / Ann Grant (3208), daughter of Hector Grant (3209) and Margaret Mackay (3210), on 02 Apr 1818/9 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He died on 29 Apr 1857 in Backlass, Watten Parish, Caithness. John and Anne (3208) appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁵⁴ They also appeared on the census of 30 May 1851 in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁵⁵ He may have been a farmer. Anne GRANT (3208) was born circa 1799. She died on 22 Apr 1877 at Banniskirk, Caithness.

Children of John Gunn (294) and Anne Grant (3208) were:

i. **Janet GUNN** (3211) was born in 1820 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 20 Feb 1820 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness and died before 1824.

ii. **Margaret GUNN** (3212) was born in 1821 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness and was christened on 24 Aug 1821 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents John Gunn of Tormsdale (294) and Anne / Ann Grant (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁵⁶

iii. **Janet GUNN** (3213) was born in 1824 in Caithness. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents John (294) and Anne (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness⁵⁷ and again on the census of 30 May 1851 in the household of her parents John (294) and Anne / Ann (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁵⁸ She may have been a domestic servant.

iv. **Hector GUNN** (3214) was born in 1826 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He died on 13 Mar 1904 in Newlands, Watten Parish, Caithness. He appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of his parents John (294) and Anne / Ann (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness⁵⁹ and again on the census of 30 May 1851 in the household of his parents John (294) and Anne (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk

⁵² *LDS Church*, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk.

⁵³ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail message to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008 and for much information on this page.

⁵⁴ UK Census 06 June 1841: John Gunn 50 farmer; Anne Gunn 40 wife; Margaret Gunn 20 daughter; Janet Gunn 15 daughter; Hector Gunn 14 son; Helen Gunn 5 daughter; all resident at Olgrinbeg.

⁵⁵ Census 30 March 1851: John Gunn 70 head; Ann Gunn 50 wife; Jennet Gunn 25 daughter; Hector Gunn 22 son; Donald Gunn 22 son; Hellen Gunn 16 daughter; Angus Grant Gunn (3218) (or Aeneas Gunn, Grand-child aged 1) being the son of Donald of Ogrinbeg (3215) before marriage and left with his grandparents when parents emigrated from Scotland; all born Halkirk Parish, all resident Olgrinbeg. (These ages for John are from the census documents; he was christened in June 1784 so he was approximately 57 in 1841 and 67 in the 1851 census. Note: Census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual.)

⁵⁶ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁵⁷ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁵⁸ UK Census 30 March 1851.

⁵⁹ UK Census 06 June 1841.

Parish, Caithness.⁶⁰ He may have been a domestic servant. In the 1871 census he was at Banniskirk as Head of the family, aged 44, an unemployed labourer, living with his mother and his grandson (?) Jasper Mackay aged 17. Their house had two rooms with one or more windows.⁶¹

v. **Donald GUNN** of Olginbreg & Owen Sound (3215). Donald GUNN of Olginbreg & Owen Sound (3215) was born in 1828 in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶² He appeared on the 1851 census, aged 22, as a domestic servant living in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He married Janet Mackay of Braehour (3118), daughter of Neil Mackay (3114) and Margaret Sutherland (3115), on 04 Jun 1852 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶³ He died on 21 Apr 1895 in Sydenham, Ontario.⁶⁴ He was buried on 23 Apr 1895 in Greenwood, Ontario.⁶⁵ He was a teacher. He appeared on the census of 30 May 1851 in the household of his parents John (294) and Anne (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁶ He was a teacher in the log school SS\#1, Sydenham, Ontario.⁶⁷ Children of Donald Gunn of Olginbreg & Owen Sound (3215) and Janet Mackay (3118) were:

1. Angus Grant GUNN (3218) was born in 1850 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He died on 27 Feb 1864 in Badnallie, Watten Parish, Caithness, of diphtheria. He was raised by his grandmother Ann Grant Gunn and uncle Hector Gunn.

2. Annie GUNN (3134)⁶⁸ was born in 1852 in Caithness.⁶⁹ She married James Adams (3219) on 09 Oct 1877 in Owen Sound, Ontario.⁷⁰ She died in 1880 in Owen Sound, Ontario.⁷¹ She emigrated with her parents in 1857 from Caithness to Ontario, Canada after death of her grandfather; her brother Neil was born en route.⁷²

3. Margaret GUNN (3135)⁷³ was born in 1855 in Caithness. She died on 04 May 1942 in Owen Sound, Ontario, age 88. She was buried on 06 May 1942 in Greenwood, Ontario. She emigrated with her parents in 1857 from Caithness to Ontario, Canada. She lived with brother Donald on land sold for a hospital. She was the informant of the death of Donald McKay Gunn (3138) in 1926.

⁶⁰ Census 30 March 1851: John Gunn 70 head; Ann Gunn 50 wife; Jennet Gunn 25 daughter; Hector Gunn 22 son; Donald Gunn 22 son; Hellen Gunn 16 daughter; Aeneas Gunn grandson of John and Ann; all born Halkirk Parish, all resident Olgrinbeg.

⁶¹ Email from Catherine Sinclair to Alastair Gunn, Nov. 2011.

⁶² Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008 and further information on this page.

⁶³ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 04 Aug 2008; Donald Gunn married Janet McKay in 1852. In his obituary, it says he was born in Reay, Caithness. But family story says that Marcus was Donald's uncle; Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008.

⁶⁴ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008.

⁶⁵ Ibidem

⁶⁶ Census 30 March 1851: John Gunn 70 head; Ann Gunn 50 wife; Jennet Gunn 25 daughter; Hector Gunn 22 son; Donald Gunn 22 son; Hellen Gunn 16 daughter; Angus Grant Gunn 1; all born Halkirk Parish, all resident Olgrinbeg.

⁶⁷ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; Donald Gunn was a nephew of Marcus Gunn. He married Janet or Jenettie McKay in 1852, a sister of Barbara McKay wife of Marcus. They were daughters of Neil McKay (17...) and Margaret Sutherland (1778-1878), natives of Caithnessshire (Thurso). They came to Canada about 1857 and are listed on lot 14 con.11, Sydenham Township. He was one of the teachers in the log school SS\#1 Sydenham (Gordon School) from 1852-1876 His son Neil liked to tease Annie Gordon b.1868 and called her his cousin.

⁶⁸ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 04 Aug 2008; Donald and Janet's children were Ann, Margaret, Neil, John, Donald MacKay Gunn, Barbara Janet, Jemima, William J and Angus Hector;

⁶⁹ Ibidem

⁷⁰ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008; *The Owen Sound Advertiser*, Married - In Owen Sound, by Rev. J.I. Hindley, M.A., on the 9th inst., Mr James Adams, of Derby, to Miss Annie Gunn, of Sydenham; Certificate of Marriage, County of Grey, Division of Owen Sound: James Adams, 22 years of Owen Sound, b Canada bachelor, farmer, parents William Adams and Hannah Adams, to Annie Gunn b Scotland spinster, parents Donald Gunn and Janet Gunn, on 9 October 1877 at Owen Sound.

⁷¹ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008.

⁷² Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008.

⁷³ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 04 Aug 2008; Donald and Janet's children were Ann, Margaret, Neil, John, Donald MacKay Gunn, Barbara Janet, Jemima, William J and Angus Hector and for further information on this page.

4. Neil GUNN (3136)⁷⁴ was born in 1857 on the way to Ontario, Canada. He married Catherine Cameron (3143), daughter of Alexander Cameron (3144), in 1892. He died on 22 May 1931 in Sydenham, Ontario.⁷⁵ Catherine CAMERON (3143) was born in 1873 in Glengarry Co. Ontario. She died on 20 Apr 1928 in Sydenham, Ontario.⁷⁶ She was buried on 23 Apr 1928 in Greenwood, Ontario. Children of Neil Gunn (3136) and Catherine Cameron (3143) were:

i. Allan Alexander GUNN (3145) was born circa 1894. He married Thelma Johnson (3161), daughter of Simon Johnson (3162), circa 1920. He married Barbara Rosetta Carnahan (3267), daughter of William James Carnahan (3147) and Annie Anderson (3265), after 1927. He died on 11 Oct 1951. They had

- 1) Thelma JOHNSON (3161) died on 08 Jun 1927 in Sydenham, Ontario.⁷⁷
- 2) Barbara Rosetta CARNAHAN (3267) died on 23 Nov 1979.⁷⁸

ii. Angus William GUNN (3146) was born in 1898. He married Vera Geanetta Johnson (3258) in 1922.⁷⁹ He died on 13 Sep 1956 in Sydenham, Ontario. He had one son and two daughters. Vera Geanetta JOHNSON (3258) died on 09 Oct 1980 in Owen Sound, Ontario.⁸⁰

5. John GUNN (3137) was born in Oct 1859 in Ontario. He died on 28 Dec 1875 at age 16.⁸¹

⁷⁴ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 04 Aug 2008; 'Donald and Janet's children were Ann, Margaret, Neil, John, Donald MacKay Gunn, Barbara Janet, Jemima, William J and Angus Hector; Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 04 Aug 2008; Donald and Janet's children were Ann, Margaret, Neil, John, Donald MacKay Gunn, Brbara Janet, Jemima, William J and Angus Hector.' She has also provided much further information for this page beyond the given footnotes.

⁷⁵ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; *Unknown newspaper*, 'Following an illness of about a month's duration the death occurred on Friday evening of one of Sydenham township's well known farmers in the person of Mr Neil Gunn, at the home of his son, Mr Angus Gunn, on the 10th line, some four miles from the city. His death, while not entirely unexpected, will be learned with sincere regret by a wide circle of friends and acquaintances in Owen Sound and throughout the township, where he was held in the highest esteem and respect.

The late Mr Gunn was the son of Mr. & Mrs Donald Gunn, who were among the old pioneer residents of Sydenham township. He was born in the township, and with the exception of a short time spent in Western Canada, resided there all his life. He was known as a successful farmer, a good neighbour and a man who took an interest in the welfare of those about him, although he took no part in public life. He was a Presbyterian in religion, being a member of St Andrew's church, and a Liberal in politics. He was married many years ago to Miss Catherine Cameron, daughter of the late Mr & Mrs Alexander Cameron, of Sydenham township, and she predeceased him about three years ago. He is survived by his son Angus, on the homestead, and Allan, also of Sydenham township; one brother, Angus, in the west, and one sister, Margaret of Sydenham.'

⁷⁶ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; *Unknown newspaper*, 'The death occurred Friday afternoon, April 20th, following an illness of about five weeks, during the last three of which she was confined to her bed, of Mrs Neil Gunn, at the home of her son, Angus Gunn, in Sydenham township, just outside the city on 8th Street East. ... The late Mrs Gunn was the daughter of the late Mr & Mrs Alexander Cameron and was born in Glengarry County and came to Sydenham township 55 years ago. Her maiden name was Catherine Cameron and she was married to Mr Neil Gunn, 36 years ago.'

⁷⁷ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; *Unknown newspaper*, 'A deserving tribute of honour was paid to the memory of the late Mrs Allan Gunn by the large number of friends and relatives who attended her funeral last Wednesday afternoon. Mrs Gunn, whose maiden name was Thelma Johnson, was the second daughter of Mr Simon Johnson and the late Mrs Johnson of Bognor, where she was born and where she spent most of her girlhood days.

In the death of Mrs Gunn the community has been deeply saddened but more especially in the home where the husband and two children, Donald aged five years and baby Leona aged 20 months, are left to mourn the loss of a devoted wife and mother.'

⁷⁸ *Unknown newspaper*, 'Mrs Barbara Gunn, at the General & Marine Hospital at R.R. No.6, Owen Sound, on Friday morning November 12, 1979. The former Barbara Rosetta Carnahan of 311 9th Street East in Owen Sound. Wife of the late Allan Alexander Gunn. Mother of Alex of R.R.4, Owen Sound, Donald and Leona, (Mrs John Wilson), both of Owen Sound. Sister of Judson, of Chatsworth and Margaret (Mrs Percy Williams) of Leith. Also survived by eight children and three great grandchildren.'

⁷⁹ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; *Unknown newspaper*, 'Angus William Gunn of 1312-1st Avenue west, died in the General and Marine Hospital on Thursday afternoon in his 59th year...The late Mr Gunn farmed most of his life in Sydenham township on the outskirts of the city and was employed at the creamery now operated by the Grey County Cheese Co-op. ... Mr Gunn married Vera Geanetta Johnson of Owen Sound, who survives. ... Also surviving are one son Neil of Owen Sound and two daughters, Dorothy, Mrs Norman Howell of Owen Sound and Thelma, Mrs Albert Miller of Toronto, and one grandson, Allan Gunn. Mr Gunn was predeceased by one brother, Allan Gunn, in 1951.'

⁸⁰ *Unknown newspaper*, 'Mrs Vera Gunn died at Versa Care Nursing Home in Owen Sound on Thursday morning October 9, 1980, the former Vera Jeanette Johnson of Owen Sound. Wife of the late Angus William Gunn; mother of Neil of Owen Sound and Mrs Thelma Myers of Monrovia, California. ... Also survived by 2 grandsons, Allan and Robert Gunn, both of Owen Sound. Predeceased by a daughter, Mrs Dorothy Hall, 2 sisters, Mrs Elsie Javens and Mrs Thelma Gunn and 3 brothers, Melville, Herman and George.'

⁸¹ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; *Owen Sound Advertiser*, Died—In Sydenham, at his father's residence, 28th Dec, 1875, John, second eldest son of Mr Donald Gunn, age 16 years and 2 months.

6. Donald McKay GUNN (3138) was born in 1861 in Ontario. He died in 1926. He lived with his sister Margaret on land later sold for a hospital.

7. Angus Hector GUNN (3142) was born in 1864 in Ontario. He died in 1940 in Prince George, British Colombia. He was a prospector in 1940.⁸²

8. Barbara Janet GUNN. (3139). Barbara Janet GUNN (3139)⁸³ was born on 14 Sep 1866 in Ontario. She married William James Carnahan (3147); his third wife. She died on 27 Apr 1931 in Ontario at age 64.⁸⁴ William James CARNAHAN (3147) was born on 18 Dec 1869. He married Cassie ANDERSON (3264). He married Annie Anderson (3265). He died on 24 Jun 1948 at age 78.⁸⁵ Child of Barbara Janet GUNN (3139) and William James CARNAHAN (3147) was Margaret CARNAHAN (3148). She married Percy WILLIAMS (3149).

9. Jemima GUNN (3140) was born in 1870 in Ontario. She died in 1870 in Ontario.

10. William James GUNN (3141) was born in 1871 in Ontario. He died on 10 Aug 1890 in Ontario. He was buried on 12 Aug 1890 in Greenwood, Ontario.

⁸² Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Family of Neil McKay & Margaret Sutherland of Caithness Scotland & Ontario Canada 03 Oct 2008 and for further information on this page.

⁸³ Carol Small e-mail to Donald Gunn, 04 Aug 2008 and for further information on this page; Donald and Janet's children were Ann, Margaret, Neil, John, Donald MacKay Gunn, Barbara Janet, Jemima, William J and Angus Hector.'

⁸⁴ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008 and further information on this page; *Unknown newspaper*, 'Mrs William G Carnahan, 1863 9th Avenue East, passed away on Monday afternoon at the Hamilton General Hospital. ... Deceased's maiden name was Barbara Janet Gunn, daughter of the late Donald and Janet Gunn, and she was born on the 10th line of Sydenham township over 64 years ago. She was married about 24 years ago to Mr William G Carnahan, who survives with two daughters, Mrs Allan Gunn, and Mrs Percy J Williams, and one son, Judson, all of Owen Sound. She also leaves one sister, Miss Margaret Gunn, of Sydenham, and two brothers, Neil Gunn of Sydenham, and Angus Gunn, in the West.'

⁸⁵ *Unknown newspaper*, 'William James Carnahan, 78, a resident of Owen Sound since 1906, died in hospital Wednesday night as a result of shock received when he fell and broke his hip the day previous. A native of St Vincent Township, deceased had driven the stage between Meaford and Owen Sound for a number of years during the early part of his life. He was also manager of the Oliver Rogara Stone Co., Owen Sound, for 25 years. Thrice married, he is survived by two children of his second marriage, Judson Carnahan and Mrs Allan Gunn, both of Owen Sound, and one daughter, Mrs Percy Williams, of his third marriage. He has one sister, Mrs Bertha Medley of Owen Sound'; *Unknown newspaper*, 'William James Carnahan, a native of St Vincent and a resident of Owen Sound since 1906, died on Wednesday afternoon ... Deceased was born in St Vincent on Dec. 18 1869, a son of the late William and Nancy Londry Carnahan. ... The late Mr Carnahan was thrice married. His first wife was Cassie Anderson and to this union were born two children, ... His second wife was Annie Anderson and to this marriage were born two children, Judson Carnahan and Rosetta, Mrs Allan Gunn, both of whom survive ... Deceased's third marriage was to Barbara Gunn, who predeceased him 17 years ago. One daughter by this marriage, Margaret, Mrs Percy Williams, survives.'

vi. Helen GUNN (3216). Helen / Ellen GUNN⁸⁶ (3216) was born in 1835 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁸⁷ She married Archibald Sinclair (3217) on Tuesday, January 26th 1858 in Halkirk. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents John (294) and Anne (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁸⁸ She appeared on the census of 30 May 1851 in the household of her parents John (294) and Anne (3208) in Olgrinbeg, Halkirk Parish, Caithness⁸⁹ where she is described as a domestic servant.

A direct relative of the family writes; 'On the marriage act, she appears to be living in Backlass, Watten before the marriage; she was a housemaid. Her brother Hector was a witness.

On the 1871 census, Archibald (47 years old) and Helen (34) appear in Newlands, Watten, Caithness with their 6 surviving children: John William, 13, see below, Janet (9), William R.G. (8), Elizabeth (6), Ann (4) and George (2); except for the youngest one, the children are all scholars. Archibald is described as an agricultural labourer; Helen does not work. They have three rooms with one or more windows.

Archibald had five attempts before managing to build his croft. In those days, the land belonged to the laird and the only way labourers could possess their own house was by building it within one night. At dawn, the laird would come and check that smoke was coming out of the chimney; if it was not, he was entitled to have the house demolished. Then the labourer had to try his luck again. No need to say that the whole community was giving a hand in such occasions! Archibald had a hard time before getting his own croft but he would certainly be happy and proud to know that it is still standing with its four walls, one of the only ones left in Watten ... Archibald SINCLAIR (3217), uncle, was the informant of the death of Angus Grant Gunn (3218) on 27 Feb 1864 in Badnallie, Watten Parish, Caithness; of diphtheria.⁹⁰

Helen Sinclair says that her grand-mother, Helen Gunn, was always very careful with her money and ruled the whole family, at least after her husband's death.⁹¹ Helen died of old age at 95, on Saturday, 17 Oct 1931 in Newton Moss, Watten. Children of Helen Gunn (3216) and Archibald Sinclair (3217) were:

1. John William SINCLAIR (3220) was born in 1857/1858 in Latheron Parish, Caithness. He married Ann Henry in 1879 in Watten and had seven children between 1879-1890, in order Elizabeth (1879), Archibald (1880), David (1883), Janet (1886), James (1888), Helen (1890) and William (1890).
2. George SINCLAIR (3221) was born in 1860 in Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁹² He died before 1869.
3. Janet SINCLAIR (3222) was born 16 May 1861 in Watten Parish, Caithness. She married George Sandison in 1881 in Watten and had Ellen Sandison in 1884.
4. William G. R. SINCLAIR (3223) was born⁹³ in 1863 in Watten Parish, Caithness.

⁸⁶See <http://catherine.sinclair.pagesperso-orange.fr/johngunn/pafg02.htm#33> for much more information about the children and their descendants than are given here.

⁸⁷ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008.

⁸⁸ UK Census 06 June 1841: John Gunn 50 farmer; Anne Gunn 40 wife; Margret Gunn 20 daughter; Janet Gunn 15 daughter; Hector Gunn 14 son; Helen Gunn 5 daughter; all resident at Olgrinbeg.

⁸⁹ UK Census 30 March 1851: John Gunn 70 head; Ann Gunn 50 wife; Jennet Gunn 25 daughter; Hector Gunn 22 son; Donald Gunn 22 son; Hellen Gunn 16 daughter; Aeneas Gunn grandson of John and Ann 1; all born Halkirk Parish, all resident Olgrinbeg.

⁹⁰ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008.

⁹¹ From Catherine Sinclair, November 2011 email to Alastair Gunn.

⁹² Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 12 Sep 2008 and further information on this page.

5. Elizabeth SINCLAIR (3224) was born on Saturday, 24 Oct 1864 in Watten Parish, Caithness.

6. Ann SINCLAIR (3225) was born on Thursday, 21 Feb 1867 in Watten Parish, Caithness.

7. George SINCLAIR (3226) was born on Friday, 2 Apr 1869 in Newlands, Watten Parish, Caithness and died 19 March 1943 in Lanergill. He married Georgina Sutherland 1876-1945 in 1907 and they had six children 1907-1921. From Catherine Sinclair;

(They had) *Annie (1907-1964) Helen (or Ella) b. 1909, Jane (or Jean) 1911- c.1990s ... Janet (or Jenny) (1915-1981), Donald (1917-2009), Catherine Mackay (1921-deceased).*

He was a hard-working man, working both on his croft but also on other people's farms. He was very good with his hands, especially very good at building. ... He had been ill for a while but on the day he died, he got up from his bed, went to the fire-place where he was keeping his money and told his daughter Catherine who was there that this was the money for his funeral. He then went to his armchair, smoked his pipe and then went back to his bed and died a few minutes later.



*George Sinclair, his wife Georgina Sutherland
and their three eldest daughters—Jean, Helen and Annie*

⁹³Also known as William Aeneas Gunn Sinclair b. 4 Dec. 1862.



The other three children; Donald, Catherine and Jenny Sinclair

8. Hector SINCLAIR (3227) was born on Wednesday, 2 Aug 1871 in Watten Parish, Caithness. He married Hughina Sutherland.

9. Archibald SINCLAIR⁹⁴ (3228) was born Saturday 7 June, 1873, Watten Parish, Caithness.

10. Daniel Gunn SINCLAIR (3229) was born on Thursday, 14 Dec 1876 in Watten Parish, Caithness. He emigrated to Queensland, Australia, probably in 1900 as a Daniel G. Sinclair was a passenger on the 'Duke of Norfolk' which arrived in Townsville, North Queensland, on 10 Aug 1900. He married Christina Ellen Anderson on 4 May 1904. Archibald Sinclair was born 17 Jan 1905. Another child, Roderick James Sinclair was born on 1 Oct 1907⁹⁵ but died on 23 Aug 1910.⁹⁶ Ailsa Mavis Sinclair was born on 17 August 1908⁹⁷ but died 17 Aug 1910.⁹⁸ One newspaper reported they both died on the same day 26 Aug 1910 from 'ptomaine poisoning.'⁹⁹ 'Mrs Sinclair and two older children are in the

⁹⁴Probably another Archibald Sinclair was born in 1865.

⁹⁵Australian Birth Index, Queensland, Reg. No. 001912.

⁹⁶Australian Death Index, Queensland, Reg No. 000648.

⁹⁷Australian Birth Index, Queensland, 1909 Reg No. 002031.

⁹⁸Australian Death Index, Queensland, Reg. No. 000644.

⁹⁹*The North Western Advocate and the Emu Bay Times*, Tas. 27 August 1910, page 5; the story appeared in many newspapers around the country.

hospital with symptoms similar to those of the children who died'.¹⁰⁰ In the 1905 Electoral Roll¹⁰¹ Daniel Gunn Sinclair was at Stone River near Ingham, a labourer. Many Anderson families lived in the Stone River district, but whether they were related to Christina Ellen Anderson is not clear. The area is 'wet tropics'; its economy is rural and sugar cane was a major source of its income. The 1919 and 1925 Electoral Rolls record Daniel and Christina still at Stone River. In 1930 Helen Sinclair b. 7 Apr 1906 a daughter, (dressmaker) was with them at Victoria and Hardy Street, in Ingham; an Archibald Sinclair is just above them in the Roll but does not have the same street address (he may have incorrectly filled out the form¹⁰²). In 1936 and 1937 another daughter Alma Jean Sinclair is on the Electoral Roll with her parents at White Rock, along with Helen. (It seems possible that Helen marries Unknown Weaver as a Helen Weaver is named as Next of Kin to her brothers in World War Two military records; Alma Jean Sinclair marries Charles Henry Barclay of Townsville on 28 Dec 1939.) There was a death notice for Daniel Gunn Sinclair for 6 Aug 1940 in Queensland, with father Archibald and mother Helen Gunn which shows he was 'our' Daniel Gunn Sinclair. He was buried in the Old Ingham cemetery, 'Uniting Church' section, plot 1355. The Daniel Gunn Sinclair who pleaded guilty to driving a utility without headlights on an Innisfail night, in late December 1946¹⁰³ was a son based on the name but no Queensland governmental birth/marriage/death paperwork can be found for him. He was born 21 Jun 1919 according to the Australian Army records, enlisted at Ingham and served in the Army in World War 2. In 1932 a Daniel G. Sinclair from north Queensland won a 'State Scholarship' to attend a Secondary School. In 1954 a Daniel Gunn Sinclair was a carpenter in Leichardt.¹⁰⁴ He was probably still alive in 1977 in Cairns and married to Gladys. Another son, John William Sinclair, was born 29 May 1914 and died in 22 Jul 1941¹⁰⁵ It is possible that Daniel died as a result of being shot when he went to assist two women who were struggling with a 'gunman' in late September 1940. He was in a critical condition following that incident.¹⁰⁶ He may have killed a cow when driving in 1938.¹⁰⁷ He enrolled in World War 2 from Mount Isa in March 1940. He was a sergeant at his death.

¹⁰⁰*The Brisbane Courier*, 26 August 1910, page 5,

¹⁰¹No other Daniel Gunn Sinclair is on the electoral roll for Queensland for any of these years.

¹⁰²Later Electoral Rolls suggest he continues to live at Ingham until at least 1943, with wife Mona Margaret Tealby m.26 March 1930 at the Ingham Methodist Church. Alma Jean Sinclair was the bridesmaid; his sister.

¹⁰³*Townsville Daily Bulletin*, 7 Dec 1946, page 5.

¹⁰⁴*Townsville Daily Bulletin*, 22 January 1932, page 5.

¹⁰⁵Australian Death Index, Queensland Reg. No 000296.

¹⁰⁶*The Argus*, page 2, 1 Oct. 1940

¹⁰⁷*Cairns Post*, page 6, 3 January 1938.

3. Third Child - Hugh GUNN (295)¹⁰⁸ was born in 1787 in Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 07 Jun 1787 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He married Henrietta McGregor of Dalnawillan (752), daughter of William McGregor (753) and Catherine Gunn (754), on 28 Oct 1814.¹⁰⁹ Henrietta (752) and he appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in Loravack, Latheron Parish, Caithness.¹¹⁰ A letter from his brother Marcus indicates he was in Caithness and married with children in 1846.¹¹¹ He moved from Halkirk to Latheron between 1820 and 1821.¹¹² Hugh either died or left Caithness after 1841 and before 1851.

Henrietta MCGREGOR of Dalnawillan (752) was born in 1795; was aged 95 at death in 1890. She died on 15 Apr 1890 in Houstry, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness.¹¹³ She appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in Fly Glay¹¹⁴, Halkirk Parish, Caithness¹¹⁵ and again on the census of 30 Mar 1861 in Houstry, Latheron Parish, Caithness.¹¹⁶

Hugh wrote in 1826 from Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness—

Bolchork

'I Hugh Gunn tennant in Campster and lawfull son to Donald Gunn tennant Bolchork and to Janet McKenzie his lawfull married wife; do hereby and in presence of Donald Mcdonald and Benjamin Greay booth Shoemakers in Bolchork, Do Hereby acknowledge to have Received my full shair as their lawfull son of all that falls my shair of Hail(?) and whole their subject and in the presence of the Above specesified witnesses, Do Hereby Discharge them Their heirs successors and assignies from any Cleam or Cleams relitive to the above specesified shair and for siverral good causes Do Hearby make void and Null all and Haill all my preferances Cleams or Considerations for my self my heirs successors or assignies forth from and for ever I am — your lawful son.

*To Donald Gunn and
His Heirs tennant Bolchork'*

On the back is written—*'Discharge Hugh Gunn to his father + Heirs 1826'*

This is unusual; why did he receive his inheritance rights early? It's not as if he was emigrating. Did it mean he could get his own farm?

¹⁰⁸ LDS Church, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783, John 8 June 1874 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk.

¹⁰⁹ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 05 Sep 2008 for much information on this page.

¹¹⁰ UK Census 06 June 1841: Hugh Gunn 50 farmer; Harrietta Gunn 45 wife; Cathrine Gunn 20 daughter; Helen Gunn 18 daughter; Donald Gunn 12 son; Mary Gunn 6 daughter; John Gunn 4 son; Alexr Gunn 2 son; all resident Loravack.

¹¹¹ See pages 279 on.

¹¹² From an email by Meg Stokes to Donald Gunn.

¹¹³ Ibidem

¹¹⁴ It is possible that this is a transcription error; 'Fleuchary' was perhaps the real place.

¹¹⁵ Census 30 March 1851: Henrietta Gunn 56 head; Janet Gunn 34; Catherine Gunn 31; Helen Gunn 29; Donald Gunn 22; Mary Gunn 16; John Gunn 14; Alexander Gunn 11.

¹¹⁶ Census 30 March 1861: Henrietta McGregor 65 head; Janet Gunn 44 daughter; Alexander Gunn son 21; Mary Campbell 7 granddaughter scholar.

Bolsherk

I Hugh Gunn Tenant in Compter and Lawfull
Sonne Donald Gunn Tenant Bolsherk and to just
Marrye his Lawfull married wife; do hereby and
in presence of Donald McDonald and Benjamin
Greay both Shoemakers in Bolsherk
do hereby acknowledge to have received my
full share as their Lawfull son of all that
falls my share of Heir and whole their Heires
and in presence of the above specified witnesses
do hereby discharge them their Heires and
Successors and assignees from any claim or
claims relative to the above specified share
and for several good causes do hereby make
void and null all and Heir all my pretences
claims or considerations for my self my Heires
Successors or assignees forth from and for ever
and I am _____ Your Lawfull son

x

x

x

He Donald Gunn and
his Heirs Tenant Bolsherk

Hugh Gunn's 1826 'discharge' document

Descendants

Children of Hugh Gunn in Tormsdale and Henrietta McGregor of Dalnawillan (752) were:

i. William GUNN (807) christened on 24 Sep 1815 in Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.

ii. Janet GUNN (3230) was christened on 04 Apr 1817 in Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She died on 15 Aug 1890 in Houstry, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness, at age 73. She appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of her mother Henrietta (752) in Fly Glay, Halkirk Parish, Caithness¹¹⁷ and again on the census of 30 Mar 1861 in the household of her mother Henrietta (752) in Houstry, Latheron Parish, Caithness.¹¹⁸ She died unmarried. She was hampered by deafness, certainly by the time of her death.¹¹⁹

iii. Catherine GUNN (3231) was christened on 10 Jan 1819 in Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Hugh (295) and Henrietta (752) in Loravack, Latheron Parish, Caithness.¹²⁰ She appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of her mother Henrietta (752) in Fly Glay, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹²¹ Died 17 March 1913 Lybster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She married Alexander McDonald (of Latheron Parish 1803-c.1891) 30 October 1857. Children -

1. Christina Sutherland McDonald 13 April 1859 -1876, Latheron Parish and
2. Henrietta McDonald b. 10 January 1861.

iv. Helen GUNN (3232) was born on 29 Sep 1822 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She was christened in Wick Parish, Caithness. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Hugh (295) and Henrietta (752) in Loravack, Latheron Parish, Caithness¹²² and again on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of her mother Henrietta (752) in Fly Glay, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹²³

v. Christina GUNN (3233) was born in 1825 in Camster, Latheron Parish and christened in Wick Parish, Caithness. She died on 24 Apr 1863 in Houstry, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness.

vi. Henrietta GUNN (3234) was born 1827 in Camster, Latheron Parish and married John Campbell. Daughter Mary Campbell c. 1853 (Latheron Parish) – 15 March 1934 (Duthill, Inverness). Mary Campbell married Neil Sinclair (3 Jan 1857 - 11 March 1939) 9 Feb 1882 at Houstry. Children

1. Alexander Sinclair (b. 1877 Latheron Parish).
2. Ann Gunn Sinclair (b 1881 Latheron Parish).
3. Henrietta Janet Sinclair (b.1885 Inverness).

¹¹⁷ Census 30 March 1851.

¹¹⁸ Census 30 March 1861.

¹¹⁹Source; Bill & Sharon Gurney email 05 Sep 2008 and for further information on this page.

¹²⁰ UK Census 06 June 1841: Hugh Gunn 50 farmer; Harrietta Gunn 45 wife; Cathrine Gunn 20 daughter; Helen Gunn 18 daughter; Donald Gunn 12 son; Mary Gunn 6 daughter; John Gunn 4 son; Alexr Gunn 2 son; all resident Loravack.

¹²¹ UK Census 30 March 1851: Henrietta Gunn 56 head; Janet Gunn 34; Catherine Gunn 31; Helen Gunn 29; Donald Gunn 22; Mary Gunn 16; John Gunn 14; Alexander Gunn 11.

¹²² UK Census 06 June 1841.

¹²³ Census 30 March 1851.

4. Elizabeth Sinclair (b. 1888 Inverness).
5. Neil Francis Sinclair (b. 1890 Inverness – d. 22 Sep 1917 Alberta).
6. Adam Robert Sinclair (b. 1894 Moy, Inverness).
7. Mary Sinclair (b. Moy, Inverness).

vii. Donald GUNN (3235) was born in 1829 in Camster, Caithness. He appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of his parents Hugh (295) and Henrietta (752) in Loravack, Latheron Parish.¹²⁴ He appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of his mother Henrietta (752) in Fly Glay, Halkirk Parish.¹²⁵ He married Williamina Sinclair (b. 7 Dec 1834 Halkirk Parish – d. 20 June 1912 Latheron Parish) on 13 Jan 1857. Children –

1. Hugh Gunn b. 13 Dec 1857.
2. Alexander Henderson Robertson Gunn b. 20 Sep 1859 Caithness.
3. Elizabeth Gunn b. 15 Oct 1861 Orlig Parish Caithness.
4. William Gunn b. 8 Dec 1863 Halkirk Parish.
5. John Waters Gunn b. 29 April 1866.

viii. Mary GUNN (3236) was born in 1835 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Hugh (295) and Henrietta (752) in Loravack, Latheron Parish, Caithness¹²⁶ and again on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of her mother Henrietta (752) in Fly Glay, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. Married James Sutherland (b. 1819) of Latheron Parish on 20 Feb 1857. Child

1. Andrew George Sutherland b. 28 Jan 1861 Latheron Parish.

ix. John GUNN (3237) was christened on 10 Feb 1837 in Wick Parish, Caithness. He appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of his parents Hugh (295) and Henrietta (752) in Loravack, Latheron Parish, Caithness.¹²⁷ He appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of his mother Henrietta (752) in Fly Glay, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹²⁸ He married Ann McIntosh (b. c. 1835) on 26 Nov 1858 Latheron Parish. Children

1. Hugh Gunn b. 11 Sep 1859 who married Margaret Dunnet (b. c. 1861 Wick Parish) on 28 Sep 1883 with child Elizabeth Smith Gunn b. 1888 Wick Parish.
2. John Gunn b. 15 Jun 1861. Latheron Parish.
3. Adam Gunn b. 7 July 1864 Latheron Parish.
4. Donald Gunn b. 15 April 1866 Latheron Parish.
5. Alexander Gunn b. 18 Jan 1868 Latheron Parish.
6. Ann Gunn b. 11 Sep 1871 Latheron Parish.
7. George Gunn b. 24 Jan 1873 Latheron Parish.

¹²⁴ UK Census 06 June 1841.

¹²⁵ UK Census 30 March 1851.

¹²⁶ UK Census 06 June 1841.

¹²⁷ UK Census 06 June 1841: Hugh Gunn 50 farmer; Harrietta Gunn 45 wife; Cathrine Gunn 20 daughter; Helen Gunn 18 daughter; Donald Gunn 12 son; Mary Gunn 6 daughter; John Gunn 4 son; Alexr Gunn 2 son; all resident Loravack.

¹²⁸ Census 30 March 1851: Henrietta Gunn 56 head; Janet Gunn 34; Catherine Gunn 31; Helen Gunn 29; Donald Gunn 22; Mary Gunn 16; John Gunn 14; Alexander Gunn 11.

x. Alexander GUNN (3238) was probably born 12 June 1839. and d. 06 Mar 1916 Houstry, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness. Married Christina GUNN (3239) 1893, b. circa 1854, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 15 May 1920 Latheron Parish, Caithness. Alexander appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of his parents Hugh (295) and Henrietta (752) in Loravack, Latheron Parish, Caithness.¹²⁹ He appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of his mother Henrietta (752) in Fly Glay, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹³⁰ He appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1861 in the household of his mother Henrietta (752) in Houstry, Latheron Parish, Caithness.¹³¹ He was informant of the death of Henrietta McGregor of Dalnawillan (752) on 15 Apr 1890 in Houstry, Caithness. Children –

1. Henrietta GUNN (808), b. 1894 Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 28 Mar 1975 Dunbeath, Latheron Parish, Caithness.
2. Alexander M K GUNN (3240), b. 1896 Latheron Parish, Caithness, d. 23 Oct 1915 Latheron Parish, Caithness

¹²⁹ UK Census 06 June 1841: Hugh Gunn 50 farmer; Harrietta Gunn 45 wife; Cathrine Gunn 20 daughter; Helen Gunn 18 daughter; Donald Gunn 12 son; Mary Gunn 6 daughter; John Gunn 4 son; Alexr Gunn 2 son; all resident Loravack.

¹³⁰ UK Census 30 March 1851: Henrietta Gunn 56 head; Janet Gunn 34; Catherine Gunn 31; Helen Gunn 29; Donald Gunn 22; Mary Gunn 16; John Gunn 14; Alexander Gunn 11.

¹³¹ UK Census 30 March 1861: Henrietta McGregor 65 head; Janet Gunn 44 daughter; Alexander Gunn son 21; Mary Campbell 7 granddaughter scholar.



Bullechach farm, 2011. Bualchork is no longer recorded, even on Ordnance Survey maps, but a location, Bullechach, is close to Tormsdale, Dirlot and Braehour, and is probably Alexander's birth location. See the map on page 6.



Brawlbin Farm 1996

4a. Fourth Child - Alexander GUNN of Bualchork and later Brawlbin (1)¹³² was born on 4 June 1789 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened 9 June 1789 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He married Barbara Gunn (see page 100) of Braehour (6), she was a daughter of Donald Gunn (the Sennachie — the Historian of the Clan – and direct descendant of the Clan Gunn Chiefs, see pages 7 and 8) of Braehour & Brawlbin (708) and Catherine Gunn of Osclay (3423), on 19 March 1829 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹³³ Alexander witnessed the marriage of Catherine Gunn (1120) and John Gunn in Durness (878) on 8 June 1836.¹³⁴ Alexander and Barbara appeared on the census of 6 June 1841 in Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness. She died 28 February 1844 at Brawlbin.

Alexander¹³⁵ considered emigrating to Jamaica in 1819 (possibly partially due to the ‘Dalton Minimum’, a period of lower than average global temperatures which included 1816 sometimes called ‘the year without a summer’¹³⁶) but he finally did not go, although his five children emigrated to Australia after he died. He was a manager of the Loyal and United Benevolent Society of the Clan Gunn when it was formed on 18 December 1821 in Thurso Parish, Caithness and by trade a shoemaker.¹³⁷ He was a farmer after 1828 in Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness.¹³⁸ He entered into a 14 year lease of Brawlbin farm for £16/a on 30 Jun 1831.

He died on 29 March 1847 in Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, at age 57.

The first document is a 'certificate in favour of Alexander Gunn' written in Halkirk on the 29th March 1817 which reads:

These certify the Bearer Alexander Gunn an unmarried young Man & Native of this Parish County of Caithness lived therein for the most part from his Infancy to this date sustain an irreproachable Character free from Scandal, Church Censure or anything else known to us that might hinder his admission into any Christian Society or Family where Providence may order his lot. In witness whereof this presentation in Name and by Appointment of the Kirk Session of Halkirk subscribed by John Cameron Min^r Donald Grant S. Clk.

¹³² *LDS Church*, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk; Letter from Colin Gunn, Jan 1998—Alexander was the third recorded child of Donald Gunn, Tormsdale and Janet McKenzie. *Bible of Alexander Gunn*: Alexr Gunn was born 1789 and died on 29 Mar 1847; Chart from Colin Gunn, Clan Gunn Society UK Genealogist.

¹³³ *LDS Church*, Marriage, Alexander Gunn, Barbara Gunn, 19 Mar 1829, Halkirk, Caithness; Clan Gunn Parish Records held at the Clan Gunn Heritage Centre, Latheron: Marriages 1829—Alexander of Bualchork married Barbara Gunn of Braehour.

¹³⁴ Parish Register, Wick Parish Register - 1835(6) - Marriage: John Gunn, farmer in Brawlbin, Parish of Reay; Catherine Gunn in Camster; witnesses Alexander Gunn, farmer, Brawlbin for the man; Donald Gunn, farmer, Brawlbin for the son; "Descent of the Gunns of Dalnaglaton & Braehour," Michael J Gunn, to Alastair Jack Gunn.

¹³⁵ From the ‘Will of George Gunn, merchant at Thurso who died April 2, 1821. “To Alexander Gunn in Achlibster Bualchork one pound to purchase any article he may choose in memory of a Friend.” This will was made in June of 1820. George Gunn was 40 years old when he died and the son of a David Gunn and Christian Henderson.’

¹³⁶ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalton_Minimum

¹³⁷ Thomas Sinclair, *The Gunns*, pub. 1890, p.174; ‘The Loyal and United Benevolent Society of the Clan Gunn, was instituted at Thurso, 18th December, 1821’. Alexander Gunn, shoemaker in Bualchork is named as one of the Society’s managers.

¹³⁸ UK Census 06 June 1841: District of Brawlbin lying in the south part of the Parish of Reay. Each person who abode in each house on night of 6 June 1841: Alexander Gunn 50 farmer; Barbara Gunn 30; Kathrine Gunn 11; Donald Gunn 9; John Gunn 5; Janet Gunn 7; William Gunn 2; all born in Caithness. Note: Census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual ie Alexander Gunn was between 50 and 55 and Barbara between 30 and 35 on 6 June 1841. Birth years are thus Alexander 1786-1791 and Barbara 1806-1811. The summary notes that there were 40 occupied houses, 2 uninhabited houses, 78 males and 94 females comprising 40 families in the Brawlbin District.

Hualkirk 29th March 1877. These certify the Rev
 Alexander Gunn an unmarried young man a member of
 this Parish Church of Caithness lived therein for the
 space of years from his infancy to this date sustained an
 irreproachable character free from scandalous Church
 conduct or any thing else known to us that might hinder his
 admission into any Christian Society or Family where
 Providence may order his Lot. In Witness whereof
 these present are in a Name and by Appointment of the
 Kirk Session of Hualkirk subscribed by
 John Cameron Clerk
 Donald Grant S. Clerk

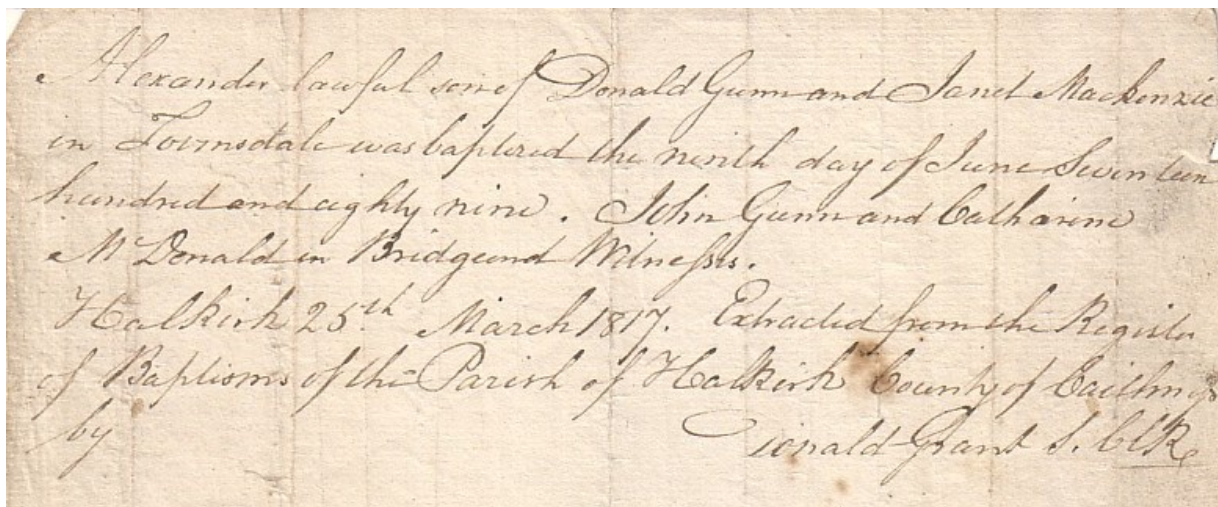
<p> Certificate In favour of Alexander Gunn 1877. </p>	<p> Certificate In favour of Alex^r Gunn Alexander Gunn Clerk </p>
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But one has to note the quality of the Minister and the area of Halkirk; 'The Rev. John Cameron, minister of Halkirk from 1769 to 1821, was more of a man than a minister. He was lame at handling a text, it is said, but an adept with musket or shotgun, and as game was of little value to the lairds in those days, he spent a good deal of his time roaming the moor with dog and gillie. He arranged to stay at home on a certain date to marry a couple, but when the day came the minister forgot all about it, and set out on one of his hunting expeditions. In the dusk of the evening, as he was coming round the bend at Pollyhour, he observed the bedraggled marriage party returning home on the opposite side of the river, signalled to them, and tied the knot there and then, though the river Thurso in flood ran between him and them.

As might be expected in such circumstances, the Parish Church was neglected; many stayed at home or wandered in the hills on the Lord's Day, while some betook themselves to fellowship meetings. ... As Mr Cameron held the pulpit of Halkirk for well over half a century, the parish was spiritually to seed, for fellowship meetings in the uncontrolled hands of unlearned though pious men breed self-righteousness, uncharitableness, obscurantism.'¹³⁹

It seems likely that this document of Alexander's was a preliminary to travel—perhaps the ancient equivalent of a passport? Obviously the support is from the Church but the reason for the character reference is unknown.

Below is a very early extract from the Register of Baptisms—



Alexander lawful son of Donald Gunn and Janet Mackenzie in Tormsdale was baptized the ninth day of June Seventeen Hundred and eighty nine. John Gunn and Catherine McDonald in Bridgend Witnesses. Halkirk 25th March 1817 Extracted from the Register of Baptisms of the Parish of Halkirk County of Caithness by Donald Grant S. Clk.

This extract is dated 25th March 1817 and, as it is by the same person (Donald Grant) as in the preceding document, it is reasonable to assume they are linked. The Christian birth extracts act to support the preceding document as well. John Gunn and Catherine M^cDonald as witnesses are also of interest; see footnote 1, page 2.

¹³⁹Drawn from that written by the Rev. A. Mackay, M.A. and Cor. Mem. S.A. Scott. at the Westerdale Manse on 21st April 1911. It appeared in the 'Ye Booke of Halkirk' (A Ross Institute Souvenir) that was issued by the Bazaar Publications Committee in 1911.

It is obvious from the following two letters that Alexander had a desire to leave the country at this time. As Mark Rugg Gunn writes, page 212, in his book *Clan Gunn* - "the land of the Gunns was cleared in stages between May 1811, the date of the first Kildonan evictions, and 1819." The effect of the clearances on this family is clear when one notes the amount of emigration; as well the zeitgeist could not easily be ignored.



Kildonan, 2011

Letters from Uncle William MacKenzie to Alexander, from Jamaica

It was his uncle, William MacKenzie (806)¹⁴⁰ who provided proof of Alexander's desire to emigrate. On 12 January 1819 William wrote in response to a letter from Alexander, from Jamaica—

Dear Nephew

Your favour of date the 18 March 1818 come to my hands but owing to sickness and Deaths in my familie prevented my answering you long before this - I having a large familie to support and have met with very bad payments in my Business - and the wear while have Reduced me very much - and my health has been very bad for some years back - I observe what you say Respecting our friends at home which I am very sorry to find is so bad - but it is the ----(?) of this world

Now that you have a great wish to come - to Jamaica - but Jamaica is not the same country that it was twenty years ago when the slave trade was open, but if that you have a wish to come - you better come yourself first before that your Brother(s?) comes - as I see your being mentioning there wish to come out also - and when that you get settled then in a little time you can be able to inform them better - if that you intend to come out - come out in a Vessel Bound for Port Antonio¹⁴¹ - or Morant Bay or Port Morant as Either of those places would answer with – I hope the letter that I have Received from you - his in your own hand writing - on Receipt of this write me when that I may look for you and what ship - if you can and give me all the news that you can Respecting the North - and our families - And give my Blessings to them all - and my sister Chirstie - tell her that I will write soon to her

*I am my dear Nephew
yours with Esteem
William Mackenzie*

*Port Antonio
Portland Jamaica
14 January 1819*

It is worth noting that the letter is addressed to Mr Alexander Gunn and the reference in the letter to the slave trade. Perhaps William made money from it around the turn of the century? As well, one has to note he had been in Jamaica for around twenty years. Given that the wishes are to his sister Chirstie (943) (Christian in the second letter), why not to another sister Janet (703) wife of Donald Gunn in Tormsdale (262)? Or perhaps he has just written to her as well?

¹⁴⁰It is easy to find MacKenzies in Jamaica (occasionally McKinzie) but so far none have positive links to the people of this book.

¹⁴¹ Port Antonio is the capital of the Portland region of Jamaica in 2009; it is on the north-east corner. Robert Burns thought about emigrating in 1786 as 'book-keeper on a Scottish-owned sugar estate in Port Antonio'. P. 250, T.M. Devine, *Scotland's Empire 1600-1815*.

Dear Nephew

Your favour of date the 18 March 1818
came to my hand - but owing to sickness
and death in my family prevented, my
answering you - long before this -

- I have a large family to support and
have met with very bad payments in my
business - and the war which has distressed
me very much - and my health has been
very bad for some years back -

- I observe what you say respecting
our friends at home - which I am very
sorry to find is so bad - but it is the
of this world -

Now that you have a great wish to
come - to Jamaica - but Jamaica is not the
same country that it was twenty years ago
when the slave trade was open - but if that
you have a wish to come - you better come
yourself first before that your Brother comes -

- As I see you being mentioning your wish
to come out also - when then you get
settled - then in a little time you can be able to
inform them better - if that you intend to
come out - come out in a Ship bound for
Port Antonio - or Montserrat Bay. or Port Morant
or either of those places. would answer
well -

I hope the letter that I have received
from you - is in your own hand writing
- On Receipt of this write me when that I may
hear from you

look for you and what ship - if you can
and give me all the news that you can
respecting the North - and our families -
and give my blessings to them all -
and my sister Phoebe - Tell her that I will
write soon to her

I am my dear Nephew
Yours with esteem
William Mackenzie

Port Antonio
Providence, Jamaica
14 January 1819

To Mr Alexander



Very much not to the scale of the preceding pages

The above shows the marked section of the 'outer' of the letter; note the two line poor PORT ANT / JA (Port Antonio Jamaica mark), manuscript 2/3 being the cost of the letter to post (the inland UK mail rate 1812-1839 gives a cost of 1/1 for Edinburgh to London mail, so the rest must be the cost to post the letter from Jamaica to Britain), the red circular—probably British—arrival mark of MAR 4 1819, a circular date stamp mark of 16JA 9 (possibly a Jamaican transit mark as it is has the same poor quality of the Port Antonio part strike) and other marks. The letter is addressed 'Mr Alexander Gunn to the care of the Reverend Doctor John Munro Minister of the Galic Chapel Edinburgh'. Where exactly was Alexander? Or is this merely a way to get the letter delivered by hand to Alexander in North Scotland (it would save 4d)? Note that to send a letter to Jamaica and wait for a reply is about a year and that the British GPO ran the Jamaican external mails from 1755 to 1860.

A second and final letter exists from a member of the MacKenzie family. The letter is not by William; the endearment at the end is different as is the signature. In particular the letter from William refers to his 'sister Chirstie' and this letter refers to 'Aunt Christian'. I assume these are the same person, as such this may be written by William's wife. As well, there is a reference in this letter to 'your uncle William', written about four months after the previous letter—

Dear Nephew

your favour came to my hands sometime ago with a letter from your Aunt Christian and now will answer both in this letter -- what you say Respecting your two young brothers I take notice of and if they have good Education as you say - will be much, in there favour in this Country, as such - if they have any wish to come to Jamaica - this will be their time. and mind that they must come out in the summer time of the year . and at the same time write me when, that I may Expect them, they must provide themselves well, with closes of every kind for the Jamaican seasons, and must Endeavour to come out in a ship Bound for Port Antonio - or Morantz bay -

- youl tell your Aunt that I am very glade, to hear from her - and that she is well - and that I will write her very soon -

- your uncle William told me that you wished much to come out yourself. therefor, the sonner that you come out, the better, being young -

-about twenty one years ago I (???) a Coffee Estate¹⁴² Called Berriedale and sunk upon Coffee about Sixty Thousand pounds - where in I might have come home with a large Fortun. when I be gon Coffee give my best respects. to your aunts and all our friends - And with them my Dear Nephew I am yours most Respectfully

???? Mackenzie

*Burriedale (?) Portland,
Jamaica 13th April 1819*

It is interesting to note that this letter is on 'Bath Superfine Paper'. This letter was addressed care of the Reverend John Munro in Merchant Street, Edinburgh but is most remarkable for the information given within. Obviously Alexander has decided not to go to Jamaica but one wonders which of his younger brother(s) were interested. £60,000 pounds buying a coffee estate in 1800 was obviously a huge amount of money; one wonders if the estate is now part of the exclusive 'Blue Mountain range' coffees of today which come from near Portland?

¹⁴²It would be interesting to know if this estate still exists.



Dear Nephew

Your favour. come to my hand some time ago with a letter. from your Aunt Christian. and now with answer both in this letter —

— what you say respecting your two young brothers I take notice of, and if they have good Education. as you say — will be much, in their favour in this Country, as such. if they have any wish. to come to Jamaica. this will be their time. and mind that. they must come over. in the summer time of the year. and at the same time write me when, that I may expect them, they must provide themselves well, with clothes of every kind, for the Jamaica seasons, and must endeavour to come within ship board, for Port Antonio. or Morant Bay.

— your Aunt tells. your Aunt, that I am very glad, to hear from her — and that she is well. and that I will write her, very soon —

— your Uncle William told me. that you wished much to come out yourself. therefore, the sooner that you come over, the better. being young —

— about twenty one years ago I sailed a Coffee Estate called Amieade. and sunk upon Coffee. about sixty thousand pounds. when in I might. have some home. with a large Porton. when I shipped to see. give my best respects. to your Aunt, and all our friends — and with them my dear Nephew. ^{Dear} yours most
Respectfully
Wm. Mackenzie

Wm. Mackenzie

Jamaica 15th April 1819



Not to scale with the letter

Note the PORT A(ntonio) JA(maica) light straight line mark, the 2/3 manuscript postage cost (and additional 1/2d boxed mark which was a further tax applied in Scotland on any letter carried by four wheel drive coaches), a light Jamaica 17 AP 1891 black circular mark (showing the letter took four days to just get to the main Post Office). The red June 9 1819 circular mark showing arrival again shows the time to sail across the Atlantic; not quite two months.

4b. Fourth Child - Alexander GUNN of Bualchork and later Brawlbin, continued

It is not easy to unravel any career so long gone and the career of Alexander is a fine example of this problem. This is not due to a lack of information, but rather due to a plethora of information but much of it trivial. We know that he was interested in emigrating in the late 1810s but he did not go and the detail about him really commences in the 1820s (he married in 1829) when he was in his thirties.

An interesting (and amusing) letter to him is sent care of Mr Wm Brims Merchant Thurso Caithness. Fairly obviously this letter writer (Robert Hammond) is a friend and a businessman. It reflects well on Alexander—and on Robert Hammond—in terms of humour, friendship, honesty and parsimony. Alexander's father-in-law also lives close to Bualchork, one assumes. Although it is possible that the father-in-law is the person to whom the letter is sent in the first instance. The whisky sounds interesting as well... At this time Alexander is a shoe maker in Bualchork—

Edin^r 25 July 1824

Dear Sir

Your Letter I recived and Iam very sorry for what has happened to the sadles but the fault rests totally uppon your self being so cound founded hard as not to pay for a box and how the Divel do you suppose that I could afford it you not only Should pay the sadles but have a good tanned hide for carelessness and you may depend that I will give you a compleate blow up a bout them the next month when I come but Ceriously I dont know what to say a bout them I realy think by you given me a five pound note I will take them both back and run all Risque -

but without any Joke before I come to Caithness write to me what a sadler will repair them for as it will be out of my power to repair them for as it will be out of my power to repair them at that Quarter of the globe and I will Deduct that of the price or pay as a concencious man what they are worth to you and I make no doubt but we will both a gree to any thing that is reasonable and like wise advise me by post what things I may bring to pay my expences I was thinking to bring a few secondhand Sadles if I could fall in with them but it will be the latter end of August till I get a way but I will hold you at your word for bed and board and your whiskie will suffer if I am sposed and I may barter with sadles for that artickle with natives of the Island provided you will conduct me through your large forests with safety

and please give my father-in-law the pound and you and he will not fall out the price of the sadles are as follows

*of two ladys sadles £5
a hunting sadle £1 12/-
 £6 12/-*

I received the Box the fish was two dry but the whiskie was most excelent tell Mr. Gunn and I am glad to hear they got the boys clothes as for your old casks it is a great neglect of me not to send them but I will fetch them with me you will grudge the postage I know but just be content for I am that poor I cannot afford to pay your letter having lost forty pounds lately and it is most likely I will not cost you a nother before I come but neverthe less I will not grudge yours and expect you will write me immadetly and say what sort of bridles

you want M^r. C Jaims(?) is respects to you and your friends

your most obedient servant

Robt. Hammond

Dear Sir

Edin^g 28 July 1824

Your Letter I received and I am
very sorry of what has happened to the
saddles but the fault rests totally upon
your self being so soundly founded as
not to pay for a box and how the
Divil do you suppose that I could
afford it. you not only should pay the
saddles but have a good tanned hide for
carelessness and you may depend that
I will give you a complete blow up
about them the next month when I come
but seriously I don't know what to say
about them I really think if you give
me a five pound note I will take them
both back and run all Risque

but without any joke before I come
to Caithness write to me what a Sader
will repair them for as it will be out
of my power to repair them at that
Quarter of the Globe and I will direct

that of the price or say as a
 Conscienceous Man what they are worth
 to you and I make no doubt but we
 will both agree to any thing that is
 reasonable and like wise advise me
 by post what things I may bring to
 pay my expenses I was thinking to buy
 a few Secondhand Sables & I could fall in
 with them but it will be the latter end
 of August till I get a bay but I will hold
 you at your word for bed and board and
 your Whiskie will suffer & I am I should
 say I may barter with Sables for that
 article with natives of the Island
 provided you will conduct me through
 your large forests with safety
 and please give my Father in Law the other
 pound and you and me will not fall out.
 the price of the Sables are as follows
 2. two Ladys Sables
 a hunting Sable.

£5 --
 1 " 12.
 £ 6 " 12

I received the Box the fish was too dry
but the Whisker was most excellent till Mr Gunn
and I am glad to hear they got the boys & the
as for your old books it is a great neglect
of me not to send them but I will fetch them
with me you will grudge the postage I know
but just be content for I am that poor
I cannot afford to pay your letter having lost
forty pounds lately and it is most likely
I will cost you a nother before I come
but never the less I will not grudge yours
and expect you will write me immediately
and say what sort of books you want
Mr C. James in respects to you and
friends

Yours most afft servant
P. Diamond



The relevant section of the outer of the letter; not to scale of the preceding pages.

Again the outer has the normal manuscript cross showing the postage cost and the additional ½d for post going on four wheels in Scotland at this time. Was it cheaper to direct the letter just to Thurso than all the way to Bulcork? Or was Alexander staying or working at Thurso at this time? Whether the saddles were for personal use or for sale by him is not known. At this point the answers are unknown...

Alexander is very much the businessman. There is an account (the amount was for one pound four shillings and sixpence and was settled within three months) in his hand to Mr. James McKenzie¹⁴³ 'Manager Thurso Tanyard' which was written at Boulchork on 17th October 1826 which reads:

Boulchork 17th Oc^r 1826

Sir

Please give the Bearer Neal McKay Olgrinbeg the half hide which he marked for himself and mark it to his own acct. and he shall pay you at the agreed time and for I action him and in so doing you will greatly oblige your obed. servt.

Alex^r. Gunn

Shoemaker Boulchork

M^r and M^rs M^cKenzie Thurso

Tanyard

Settled

James M^cKenzie

¹⁴³Was this McKenzie related to Alexander Gunn's mother, Janet McKenzie (703)? The tanyard was in Riverside Road, opposite what is now the Tourist Office. The land it occupied is now a public toilet.

But business is picking up and Alexander is busy. The next document is an account held by Mr Alexander Gunn Shoemaker Bulcork D^r to John MDonald Merch^t Calder for the period January 1824 to October 1827. It's detailed and shows a busy business and what is needed to run that business. Alexander owed over £32 in a two year period mainly for such items as leather, tacks, material and oil—all items associated with his trade. Note the bottom lines on page two where it is pointed out that £1 paid in is not recorded by this merchant...

Mr Alexander Gunn Shoemaker Bulcork D ^r 1824 To John MDonald Merch ^t Calder		
Jan 21 To 3 Chopins oil at 1/4 p. pint	To	2 0
29 To 8 pint buttons		0 0 8
3 Chopins oil at 1/2 p. pint		0 1 9
30 To 29 1/2 12 9		1 9 10 1/2
Feb 12 To 3 1/2 Chopins oil at 1/2		0 2 6
To balance of glass		0 0 1
March 10 To Stoneware		0 1 2
To 3 lb Sprigs @ 4 p. lb		0 1 1 1/2
25 To Stoneware do		0 12 2
To 7 p. pint fine Shantung @ 1/2 p. p.		0 8 2
To 1 Cream Cover 3		0 0 3
April 11 To 8 lb heel tacks @ 1/2 p. lb		0 4 8
To 1 lb small toe tacks @ 9		0 0 9
To 3 Chopins oil @ 1/2 p. each		0 1 9
do 26 To 5 lb 10 oz Grope Belles @ 1/11 p. lb		0 10 9 1/2
To 4 lb 6 oz horse leather		0 8 0
To 3 lb 1/2 1/2 p. lb		0 3 6
May 7 To 4 lb 1/2 tacks 1/2 p. lb		0 2 1/2
11 To 2 lb 1/2 tacks 1/2 p. lb		0 0 1 1/2
June 18 To 5 1/2 lb ranges @ 3 1/2 p. lb		0 18 4
July 5 To 5 1/2 lb english ranges @ 3 1/2 p. lb		0 17 1/2
do 9 To 25 Belles Belles @ 2 1/2 p. lb		2 4 11
To 19 1/2 hard Belles @ 1/6 p. lb		1 6 4
To 1 lb 1/2 1/2 p. lb		0 9 2
Oct 6 To 3 1/2 lb english ranges @ 3 1/2		0 10 9
To 1 Chopin oil @ 1/2		0 0 7
do 11 To 11 lb 1/2 Sprigs @ 4 p. lb		0 1 4
18 To 4 lb 1/2 rosin @ 3 1/2 p. lb		0 1 2
Jan 12 To 12 lb Shoe tacks @ 1/2		0 7 0
22 To 3 pair Croasaps 2 each		0 0 6
Feb 2 To 5 lb 9 oz Cordavan @ 1/4 p. lb		1 0 0
April 20 To 1 pint oil 1/4		0 1 4
21 To 9 lb Iron tacks		0 7 6
May 19 To 200 Croasaps 1 each		0 0 10
To 16 lb Shoe huds at 3/32		2 12 0
June 7 To 112 lb tacks @ 10 lb		0 10 0
1 Doger Croasaps 21		0 2 0
To 3/4 yards Molestine		0 1 9

Brought over amount of 16 4 8²
 To Buttons 7 0 0
 To thread 14 lb silk 6 and 12 0 0
 July 13 To 9 lb 14 oz english ranges 9/11 1 12 15.
 Oct 10 To 4 lb 8 oz deep leather @ 3/5 0 14 7.
 To 1 lb 8 oz english ranges @ 3/20 14 5
 To 2 lb 3 oz inside leather @ 1/10 0 4 6.
 To 9 oz button ranges @ 2 0 1 6.
 To 2 lb sole leather @ 9/10 0 1 6.
 Nov 10 To 1 Chapin oil 9 0 0
 Dec 28 To 3 Chapin oil 15 each 0 2 6.
 Jan 11 To 6 lb rosin at 3/6 0 1 9.
 To 8 sheet paper 0 0 6.
 Feb 14 To 3 1/2 dozen pair Cramp 2/0 7 0
 June 3 To 5 lb Cordovan @ 3/6 0 17 6.
 To 11 english ranges @ 3/2 1 14 10.
 To 1 piece Cordovan at 6 0 0 6.
 Oct To 6 lb 1/4 lb english butt @ 2/6 8 6 2 1/2
 Nov 16 To 1 mule skin 0 0 5
 20 To 9 lb foreign bend @ 2/ 0 18 0
 32 7 2

By Cash in Ledger A - £ 3 0
 By Cash paid in L B 7 8 0
 1527
 Total 15 13 0

Oct By Cash in part of this 9 oct 1527 5 12 7
 Balance Due £ 6 14 2
 J. M. C. Small

1826
 Dec 11

One Pound 1/2 being paid by me and
 not marked in the ledger and books which
 we cannot deny that it was paid from one the
 Advances of the firm about Nov 22 1/2

Further large accounts exist with money going in and out; the next two sides are from James McKenzie at the Thurso Tanyard December 1827-September 1829—

Mr Alexander Gairn Thos. Dalatark			
1827 To 1 Manager of Thurso Tanyard			
Dec 14 To 1 Cattle	31 8 0 2/6	£3. 18. 9	
Cows 8 1/2 @ 4/		1. 17	
1828 Wharfedale		£. 7. 6	
Jan 11 To 2 Ranges		£7. 3. 0	
1 To 1 Shachide 10 1/2 @ 4/		£8. 18. 8	
29 To 1 Range	£1. 17. 11	£10. 8. 8	
Bellis 12 1/2 @ 1/4	" 17		
1 Kip 5 1/4 @ 2/6	" 19		
		2. 13. 11	
Mar 21 To 6 calves		£13. 2. 7	
1 Kip 3 1/2 @ 3/6	£. 9. "		
2 Shachide 10 1/2 @ 2/10	" 9. 9		
Cows 3 1/2 @ 1/4	2. 15. 10		
Pecies 23 1/4 @ 1/4	" 14. 9		
5 Ranges	1. 11.		
1 Calf	3. 11. 10		
1 Bander	" 9.		
	" 2. 4		
		£10. 3. 6	
1 Craphide		£23. 6. 1	
May 9 To Bellis 14 1/2 @ 1/4	£1. 4. 6	£24. 17. 2	
Cows 4 1/4 @ 4/	" 19. 6		
5 Shachide 41 1/4 @ 2/11	6. 11. 4		
1 1/4 p/ren	" 2. 3		
		£8. 6. 7	
3 Ranges		£33. 3. 9	
1 Craphide		£2. 15. 9	
1 To 1 Range		£10. 8.	
June 27 To Bellis 14 1/4 @ 1/4	£1. 19. 10	£37. 10. 5	
1 Range			
1 Craphide	18. 6.		
		£3. 8. 4	
		£40. 18. 6	

1828 Brought over 240 18 6
 July 15 To 1 Orange 1.1.2
 1 Beller 4 #1 @ 4 5.5
 1 Bunder 2 4
 1 Shachido 9 #8 @ 3 1.8 6
 2.18.5
 2 Bala 9 #8 @ 1/9 149 15.11
 To Corrova 3 #10 @ 4 44 13 6
 Aug 22 By Cash 115 7
 To 1 Ellarling 32 # @ 1/6 24 35 7
 1 Crophi 21 # @ 1/9 1.18 2/6
 1 Range
 2 Shachien 2.13
 2 Batts 7 # @ 1/9 12 10 6
 Sept 15 To 1 Shachid 10 # @ 1/9 115 7 6

1829
 July 29 By Cash 22
 24 18 3
 7 July Shachid 11/6
 Co 1 #15 79
 19 3
 1 3 2
 Aug 29 By Cash 27 8
 25 17 6
 Disch 1/12 1 3 2
 Cash 10 1 3
 James H. Hanger

The sums are enormous; Alexander must be doing more than shoes!¹⁴⁴ He has certainly earned some money; the next document indicates he lent £50 (in three lots; £10, £20, £20) to Donald M^cDonald Shoemaker. But was the money just £10 with an added £10 the following year which was rolled over? The amounts to be repaid were due on Nov. 2 1827, Nov. 2 1828, Nov. 2 1829. Witnesses were Sinclair Murray and John Sutherland—

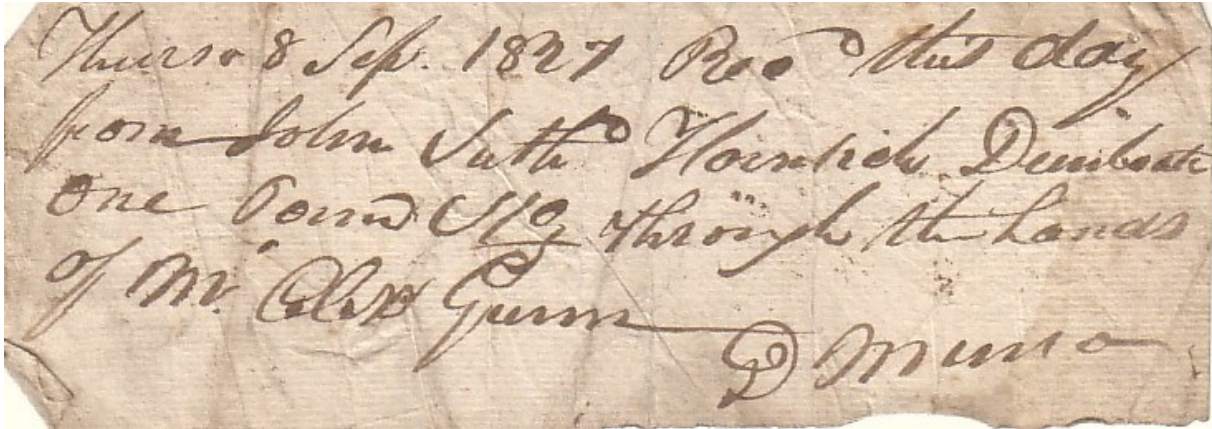
100/-
 from Donald M^cDonald Shoemaker
 To Alex^r Gun - shoem^r - Paisley
 I hereby acknowledge the above sum
 to be just and true indebted to Alex^r
 Gun shoem^r I hereby bind an oblig^e
 myself to pay the said sum of ten pounds
 sterling Nov 2 One thousand eight
 hundred and twenty seven Don M^cDonald
 Sinclair Murray & John Sutherland
 200/-
 I hereby acknowledge the above sum
 to be just and true indebted to Alex^r
 Gun shoem^r I hereby bind an oblig^e
 myself to pay the sum of twenty pounds
 sterling Nov 2 Eighteen hundred and
 twenty eight Donald M^cDonald
 Sinclair Murray & John Sutherland
 200/-
 I hereby acknowledge the above
 sum of 20 to be just and true indebted
 to Alex^r Gun shoem^r I hereby bind
 an oblig^e myself to pay sum of
 Twenty pounds sterling Nov 2 Eighteen
 hundred and twenty eight Don M^cDonald
 Sinclair Murray & John Sutherland

¹⁴⁴Shoemakers were viewed as the more literate 'upper class' tradesmen—they had the time and place to read. See http://www.electricscotland.com/history/1820/1820_rising.htm

There is an interesting receipt from 1827 which reads—

Thurso 8 Sep 1827 Recd this day from John Suth^d Horntick(?) Dunbeath one pound Stg through the hands of
Mr Alex Gunn

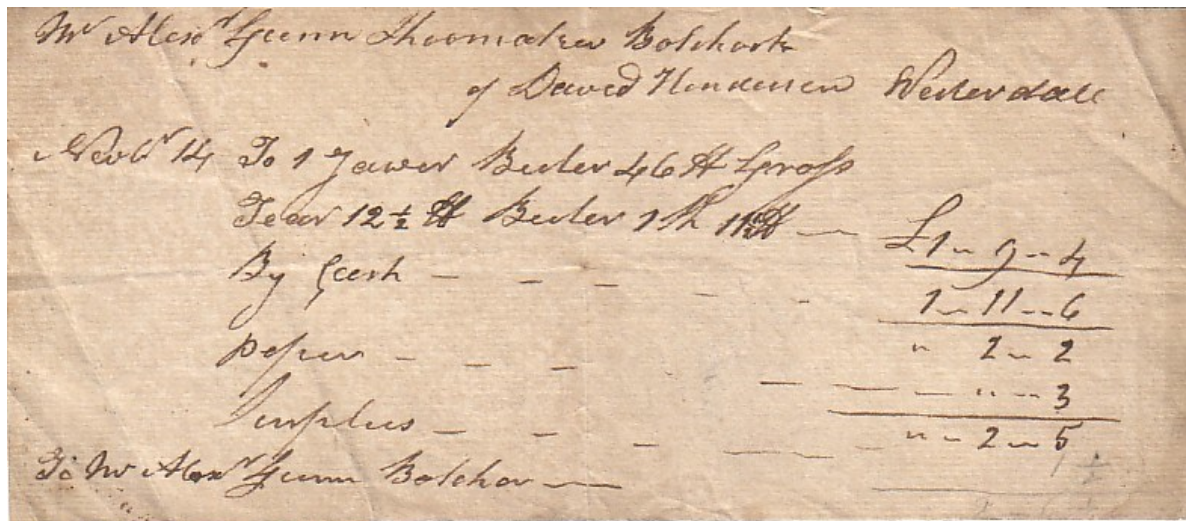
D Munro



Thurso 8 Sep. 1827 Recd this day
from John Suth^d Horntick Dunbeath
One Pound Stg through the hands
of Mr Alex Gunn — D Munro

He is helping others by paying for them ‘through the hands’; it shows integration into the community.

He also ran a small bill with David Henderson of Westerdale around this time—



Mr Alex Gunn Shoemaker Batchelor
of David Henderson Westerdale

Sept 14 To 1 year Butler 46 4 1/2	
Sept 12 1/2 4 Butler 1 1/2 1/2	
By Cash — — — —	1-9-4
paper — — — —	1-11-6
Surplus — — — —	2-2
	3
	2-5

To Mr Alex Gunn Batchelor —

He also bought items for cash from Alex. Gillon in Edinburgh on the 16th of October 1828—

Edinburgh 16th October 1828
 Mr. Gunn Bought of Alex. Gillon
 1 Soggy Dick — at 14/- — 14/-
 6 lbs of 1st Quality at 1/3 — 2 1/3 6
 3 black closing threads 1/- — 3/-
 Total £ 14 1/3 6
 Same time by cash 14 1/3 6
 Alex. Gillon
 Robt. Gillon

Note that it is signed by Robt Gillon on behalf of Alex Gillon.

Alexander also ran his own accounts. A note from George Gunn Mybster (March 15th 1828) reads

Mybster March 15th 1828

Sir all the grievance that I sustain by your acct to me you will come to know by comparing this to your acc^t which I hope you will agree with and place the sum (?) to the credit of Mr Alexr. McLeods account and I am
 Sir your most obd^t Svnt.

Geo. Gunn

To Mr A Gunn Shoemaker

Bualchork

Mybster March 16th 1828
 Sir all the grievance that I sustain by your acct
 to me you will come to know by comparing this to your
 acct which I hope you will agree with and place
 the sum to the credit of Mr Alexr. McLeods account
 (And I am Sir your most obd^t Svnt)
 To Mr A Gunn Shoemaker }
 Bualchork } Geo. Gunn

The original account from Alexander does not exist but the sum that George Gunn was in credit was, in his eyes, nearly ten shillings—

George Gunn Myself Dr		To Mr Alex Gunn Shoemaker Burslehorby	
1821			
March 20 th	To making one pair	9 4 5	£ 4 -
May 17 th	To do do		3 -
June 11 th	To one pair shoes		9 - 6
1821 July 28 th	To give the wife one pair		6 - 6
April 28 th	To Cash given the wife		5 -
July 11 th	To one pair for myself		10 -
Decr 31 st	To Cash		2 - 1 1/2
By Balance given to the amount of		£ 2 - 0 - 1 1/2	
		2 - 10 -	
		£ 9 - 10 1/2	

A large difference from being an actual debtor and probably a good reason to close his account with Alexander if his sums were accurate!

Alexander married Barbara Gunn (Gunn is both her maiden and married surname) on the 19th March 1829. She was nineteen and he was forty.

There is a second letter from Robert Hammond to Alexander (care of Mr Benjamin Murray (Munro?) Inn Keeper(?) Thurso) written in Edinburgh on 6th January 1829. It begins with an account -

Mr Alex^r Gunn

Edin^r 6TH January 1829
To Robert Hammond Saddler

1828

Dec. 8 one Ladys saddle	£ 2/5/-
8 sadles at 1/11/6	12/12/-
one hand plate suffle(?)	14/-
two table cloths	6/-
Barrol	2/6
	£15-19-6

Dear Sir

I had your letter partly wrote when the goods was shipped on December last - I am sorry that I could not find the old saddle that you Bought from me owing to the person that I purchased them from making no a batement uppon the large one therefore our Bargain was with drawn but the new one you will find a Bargain at the money - I am very sory to inform you that my Brother John has nearly ruined me with Security for him the a mount being £96 I would have wrote you long a go but oweing to the state of mind that I was in made me past doing any thing - if you could send me one ankor of Whiskie A long with one for M^r Russell(?) as soon as possible you will oblidge me to send it by the next vessell - I trust you are in better spirits than Iam at

present - you will please pay Grandfather 10/- I would have allowed more but it is realy more than I can afford - for how I am to get that money raisd I cannot tell - Mrs Hammonds Compliments to you not forgetting your Father Mother & Sisters - if you can convenenty send some of the money down it will be a favour - & best here & loose no time with the whiskie

*I am
Dr sir
Yours Respectfully
Robt. Hammond*

*To Alex^r Gunn Esq.
of
Boulchork
Caithness*

*Mr Alex^r Gunn
To Rob^t Hammond*

*1828
Dec 8 one ladys sadle £2/10/-
8 sadles at £1/13/- 13/8/-
£15/18/-*

Sir

I have send the sadles by the Johno Groat trust that they will please and turn out to your intire satisfaction when your further comands will oblige

*Your humble servant
Robt Hammond*

A fascinating letter; where is the 'whiskie' from? Who is the Grandfather? Note this issue of the need to provide money to members of the family; we are pre 'social welfare' here.

M^r H^o P^{er}son

Edin^g 6th Jan^y 1829
To Robert Craigmiles Sadler

1828

Dec ^r 8 one Lady's Saddle	£ 2. 5.-
" " 8 Saddles at £ 1. 11. 6	12. 12.-
" " one hand plate saddle	" 14.-
" " Two Table & lotty	" 6.-
" " Barrel	" 2. 6

£ 15. 19. 6

Infid I had your letter partly wrote
when the goods was shipped on December
last - I am sorry that I could not find
the old saddle that you bought from me
owing to the person that I purchased the
from making me a statement upon the
large one therefore our bargain was
with drawn but the new one you will find
a Bargain at the money - I am very sorry
to inform you that my Brother John has
nearly ruined me with security for him the
amount being 96 M^y I would have wrote
you long ago but owing to the state
of mind that I was in made me fast doing
any thing - if you could send me one Anchor
of Whiskey a long with one for St Russell as soon
as possible you will oblige me to send it by

the next vessel — I trust you are in
better spirits than I am at present — you
will please pay Grandfather 10/ I would have
allowed more but it is really more than
I can afford — for how I am to get that money
raised I cannot tell — Mr Crommons
Compliments to you not forgetting your
Father Mother & Sister — if you can concei-
-venly send some of the money soon it
will be a favour — & bid him & lose
no time with the whiskey

I am

To Mr Gunn Esq
of
Boulton &
Cochran

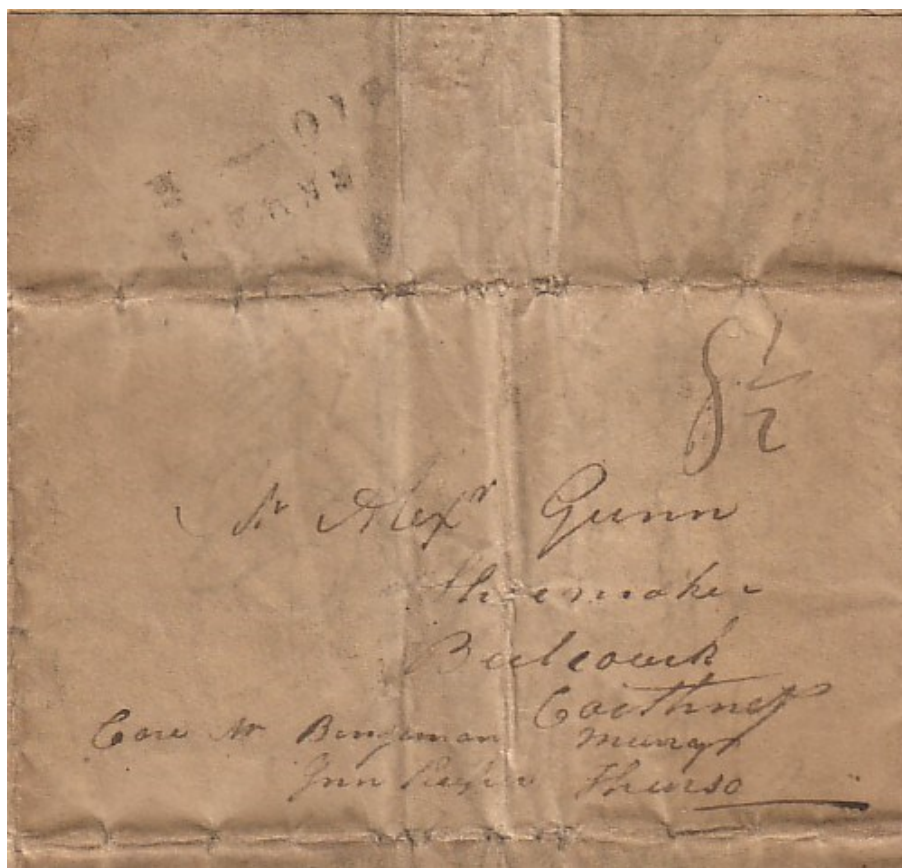
Dr Sir
yours Respectfully
Robt Crommons

M. Alf. Gunn
1828 To Robt. Hammond

Del 8 £. One Lady's Saddle — £ 2-10-
8 Saddles at £ 1-13-6 13-8-
£ 15-18

Sir, I have sent the Saddles by
the John's great trust that they
will please and turn out to your
future satisfaction when your further
commands will oblige
your humble servant

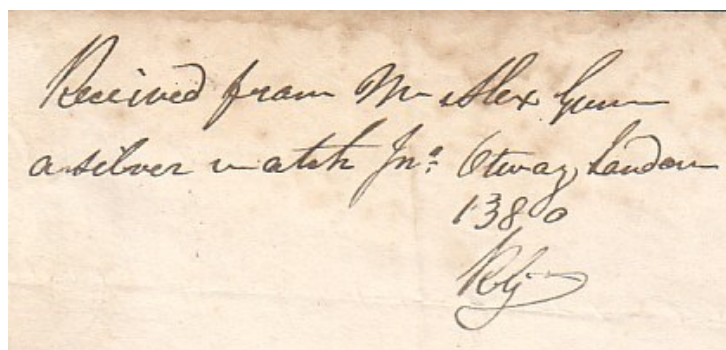
Robt. Hammond



Not to scale with the preceding pages.

The letter is expensive—8½d. The address is of interest as well; ‘Mr Alexr Gunn / Shoemaker / Bulcouth / Caithness / Care Mr Benjamin Murray / Inn Keeper / Thurso.’ Note the Inn Keeper; is it he who provides the whisky? Is that why the letter is sent to him, to ensure the whisky is not forgotten? At the top is a typical two line straight mark detailing distance from Edinburgh. This one is a transit mark and has the letters...ERWA ... and a mileage second line ...10-E; Erwa being part of a place name and the ...10-E indicates distance from Edinburgh.

Somewhere in his life, though, remains the unusual. There is a pawn ticket 'for a silver watch In Otway London 1380(?)' Was 1380 a docket number? Or the year misplaced and should it be 1830? Is this a pawn ticket? Or part payment for some bill? This document is just not able to be pinned down—



Further bills by or for Alexander exist. An interesting one (printed) is from Stark, Gunn and Co. for a variety of tacks and similar goods. They were based in Falkirk. Note that credit is now printed on the bill '6 months running'. They were to let Alexander

'know of 4 bags tacks to which our mutual friends Messrs Sutherland & Gunn Swiney (?) ordered us to send...'

One wonders why? The interplay of commerce at this time cannot be followed.

The confusion is that it is addressed to Mr A Gunn Shoemaker Bualchork care of Mr A Gunn Merchant Thurso!



Note the manuscript cost of posting the bill— $\frac{1}{2}$ d with the normal further ADDL $\frac{1}{2}$ bill. There is a red transit circular date stamp of 18 March 1830.

Mr. A. Gunn *Camden by Fultirk 17/11/83*
Bought of Stark Gunn & Co
 NAIL MANUFACTURERS, IRON MERCHANTS
Credit 6 Months Running Account. *& Commission Agents*

<i>1 Bag</i>	<i>20 1/2</i>	<i>6 D. Tacks</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>16 1/2</i>	<i>2 1/2</i>	<i>6 1/2</i>
<i>1 "</i>	<i>8 1/2</i>	<i>8 "</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>2 1/2</i>	<i>1 1/2</i>	<i>1 1/2</i>
<i>1 "</i>	<i>8 1/2</i>	<i>4 "</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>2 1/2</i>	<i>0 16</i>	<i>8</i>
	<i>4 1/2</i>	<i>9 1/2 "</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1 1/2</i>	<i>0 7</i>	<i>1/2</i>
<i>1 "</i>	<i>25 1/2 Gal. Nails</i>					
	<i>11 1/2 1/2 "</i>		<i>42</i>	<i>3 1/2</i>	<i>0 10</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>4 Bags</i>			<i>268</i>			

to Faith Care of Messrs. A. & J. L. L. L. L.
&

Cumtoun Falkirk 17 March 1836

Sir

Pleasant we beg have to hand You
news of 4 Bag Jacks &c which our
Mutual Friends Messrs Luthertan & Son
of Swinney ordered us to send You
We hope they will get safe
to hand and please

We are Sir

Your ob. Servants

Hark, Cumtoun & Co

The following bill for over £35 was run up by Alexander in one day on March 25, 1830 for material for his trade (Cordwain, Shoe hides, skins etc.)!

Mr Alexander Gunn
 1830 *Bill of Wm Russell*
 26 March L. Cordwain 16.15 (3/6 £ 2. 19. 3 1/2
 8 Shells 78 (3/4 4. 4 —
 7 Shoe Hides 89 1/2 (1/4 10. 8. 10
 2 English Butts 59 (2/6 7. 7. 6
 2 Scots Crps 80 1/2 (10 1/2 6. 17. 6
 Bend 42 (10 1/2 3. 11. 9
 2 Binding Skins 70 — 3. 4
 35. 12. 2 1/2
 27 March By Ten Pounds — 10
 25. 12. 2 1/2

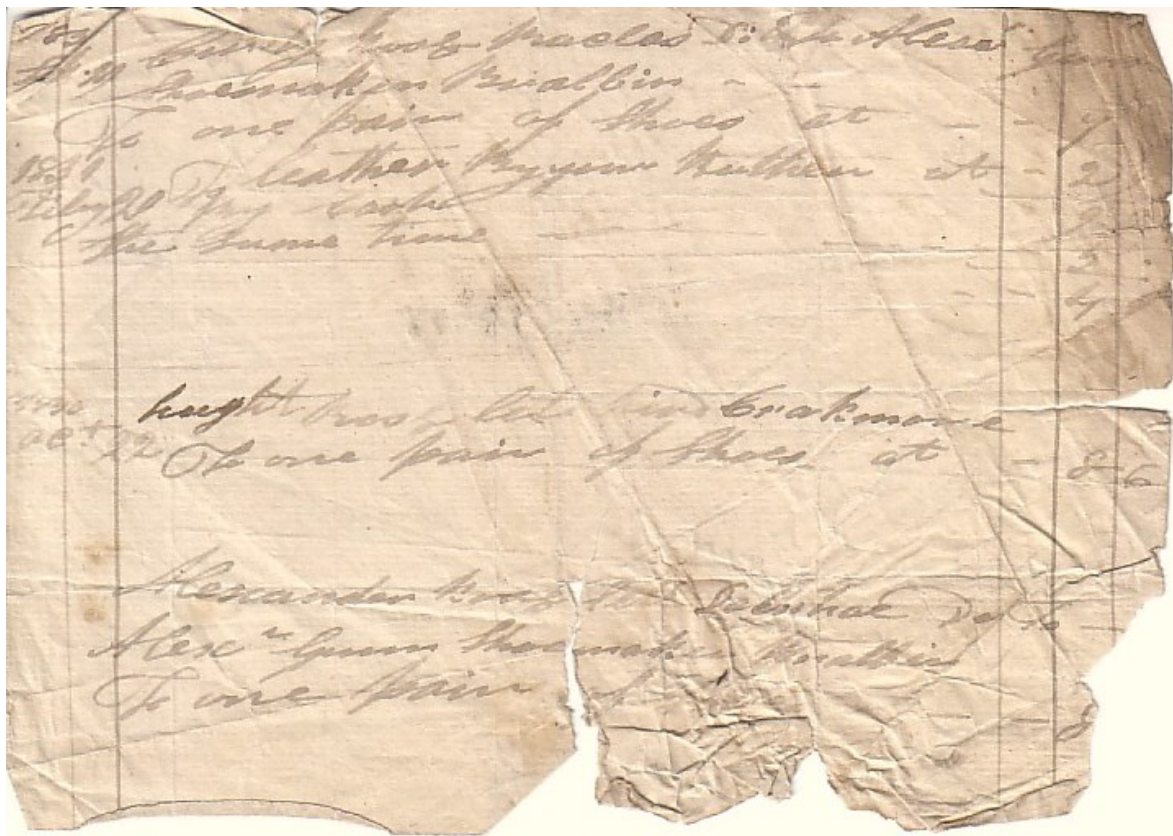
Of real interest is the following receipt showing Alexander's possession of Brawlbin—not Bualchork. It reads—

Calder 4th May 1830 Recd. from M^r Alex. Gunn Tenant Brawlbin sixteen shillings & 10 1/2 being full payment of his acct till this date

Don Hamilton

*Calder 4th May 1830 Recd from M^r Alex. Gunn
 Tenant Brawlbin sixteen Shillings & 10 being
 full payment of his acct till this date
 Don Hamilton*

And a further bill in favour of Alexander Gunn shoemaker at Brawlbin for October 1830—



But this shift to Brawlbin is not known by everyone. Alexander may have been content to run up bills and have bills run up on him (seemingly typical of his society) but his citation of Peter Macdonald Tenant of (?) Blaulful (?) of Shurrery before "The Honourable His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the settling of sixteen shillings and one penny" is uncommon in his extant papers. The writ was obtained at Thurso on 11 October 1830 and the action was due to be held on the 21st of October. The summons was issued under the hand of Nile Miller clerk and served by Constable James Mackay on the twelfth 'delivering to him (McDonald) personally apprehended'. The actual cost for this service being 6/3d which is a significant percentage of the principal. (Warrant and copy 1/7d Travelling fees 4/4d -----(?) 4d).

Fees allowed by the Act. No. 5

CLERK'S FEES.

Complaint, 6d; Copy, 6d; Entering into Procedure Book, 6d,	£0 1 6
Defender's Appearance,	0 0 6
Oath of Party,	0 1 0
Oath of Witness,	0 0 4
Decreet,	0 0 6
Warrant <i>de novo</i> ,	0 0 4
Rehearing,	0 1 6
Inspection of Books,	0 0 6

CONSTABLE'S FEES.

Citation and Execution,	£0 0 4
Arresting,	0 0 6
Binding,	0 3 0
Sale,	0 2 0
Imprisonment,	0 3 0
Travelling, per mile,	0 0 4
Assistants <i>ca h</i> ,	0 0 3

CRIER'S FEE.

For Calling the Action, \	0 0 1
---------------------------	-------

COMPLAINT

Gimme

Against

Macdonald

183 e

EXPENSES.

<i>Warrant & Copy</i>	1-7
<i>Travelling fees</i>	4-4
<i>Incensing</i>	4
<i>Sub 6-3</i>	6-3
<i>Principal</i>	10-1
<i>Sub 1-2-4</i>	11-4

It is an expensive option to use the law.

UNTO THE HONOURABLE
HIS MAJESTY'S JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
For the Shire of Caithness.

COMPLAINS, *Alexander Lamm Shoemaker*
Buelach

That *Peter Macdonald* Tenant *Blauful*

of Shunery
owing the Complainer, the sum of *Eighteen Shillings and one penny*
Holding for account

which *he* refuse to pay unless compelled: — Therefore the said Defender OUGHT and SHOULD be
DECERNED and ORDAINED to make payment to the Complainer of the aforesaid sum with interest and
expenses.

At *Thurso* the *Eleventh* day of *October* 1830
The Clerk of the Peace, for the Shire of Caithness, grants warrant for summoning the said Defender to compare
before the Justices of the Peace for the said Shire, at *Thurso* in the Court-house there, upon *Thursday*
the *Twenty-first* day of *October* *next* at eleven o'clock forenoon, to
answer at the instance of the said Complainer; and appoints a copy of the account pursued for, document of debt,
or state of the demand, to be delivered to the Defender along with the citation; also grants warrant for citing
witnesses for both parties, to compare at the same place and date, to give evidence in the said matter.

W. C. Miller Clerk.

Upon the *Twelfth* day of *October* one thousand eight hundred and
thirty — years, I *James Mackay* Constable, summoned
the above-designed *Peter Macdonald*

to compare before his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, time and place above-mentioned, to answer at the instance
of the Complainer, with certification, that *he* will otherwise be held as confessing the debt. This I
did by *delivering to him personally apprehended*

a full copy of the complaint or warrant, with a short copy of citation thereto subjoined, and a copy of the ground
of debt sued for

J. Mackay Constable.

At the day of one thousand
eight hundred and thirty years, the which day his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, for the County of
Caithness, found and hereby find the above-designed

Defender, liable to the also above-designed


Pursuer, in the principal sum of
and

of expenses, as hereon indorsed, and decerned and ordained, and hereby decern and ordain instant execution by
arrestment, and also execution to pass hereon by Poinding and Imprisonment, after
of ten free days. — Extracted by

Clerk.

Alexander continued to run up debts. The following is from the Edinburgh merchant William Bruce dated 7 May 1830 for items needed for his business (rosin, copper etc.)

Mr Alex Gunn
Shoemaker
Bulchors
Walker
Mar Thurst

There are no postal markings on the outside as presumably it went with the items just bought, note the above bottom left corner 'with Barrel of Rosen +c...'.


Edin. 7 May 1830

Mr Alex. Gunn
Bulchok Bought of William Bruce

One Barrel of Rosin $\begin{matrix} 2. 1. 26 \\ \text{tare} \quad 0. 1. 12 \end{matrix} \left. \begin{matrix} \\ \end{matrix} \right\} 2. 0. 14 \text{ net}$ 1. 1. 3

4 Hhd Copper down & Nail Mills 48 at 2/ 0. 8. 0

$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} 1. 9. 3$

I saw the above and shipped by the
Union, Mather for Thurso, and I hope
she will arrive safe, and that the Articles
will prove to your Satisfaction
The Spannowhills, I put in to a small
bag, 2 in each end, and placed the
bag under the direction, which is firmly
tied to the end of the Cask

I am Dear Sir
Yours most obtl
Wm Bruce
Daniel Melan

Another printed receipt occurs at this time from William Miller Jun., Leith dated 14 May 1830. It is for freight and shore-dues from Edinburgh for a bale of lear (?), a bag of nails and one cask. The cost was two shillings. Possibly the following bill is for the carriage of the above goods....

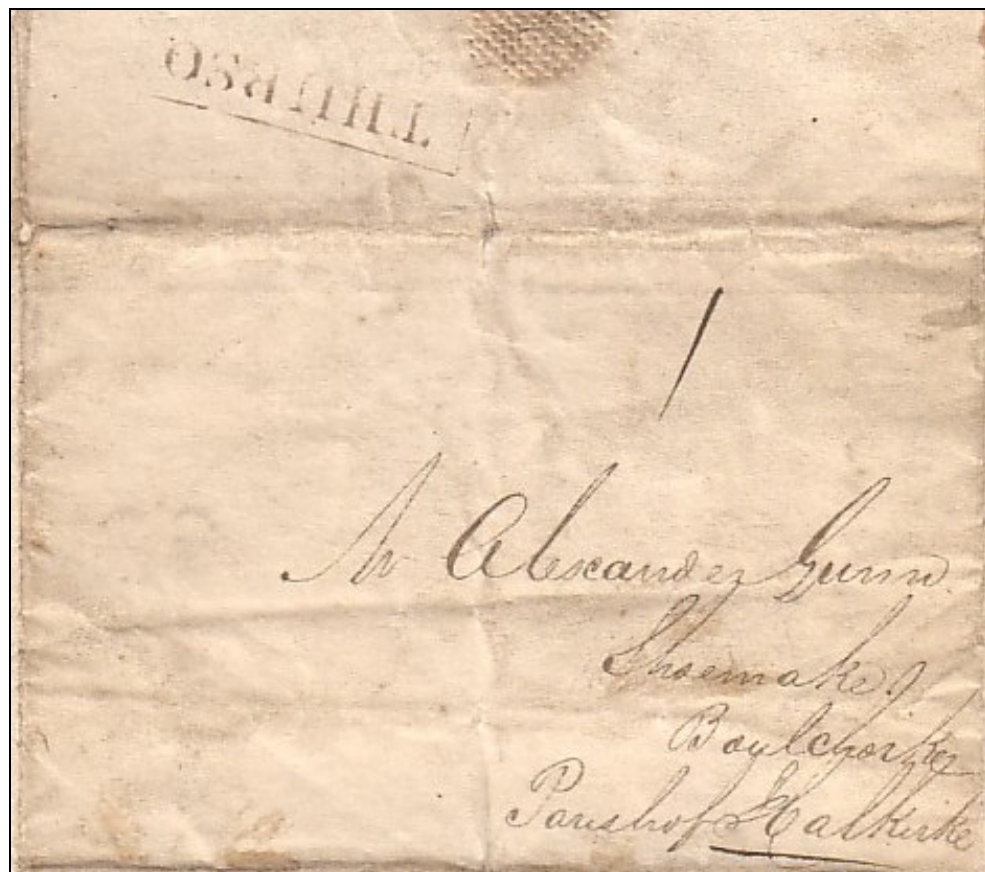
Mr Alexr Gunn
Thurso

Leith, 14 May 1830

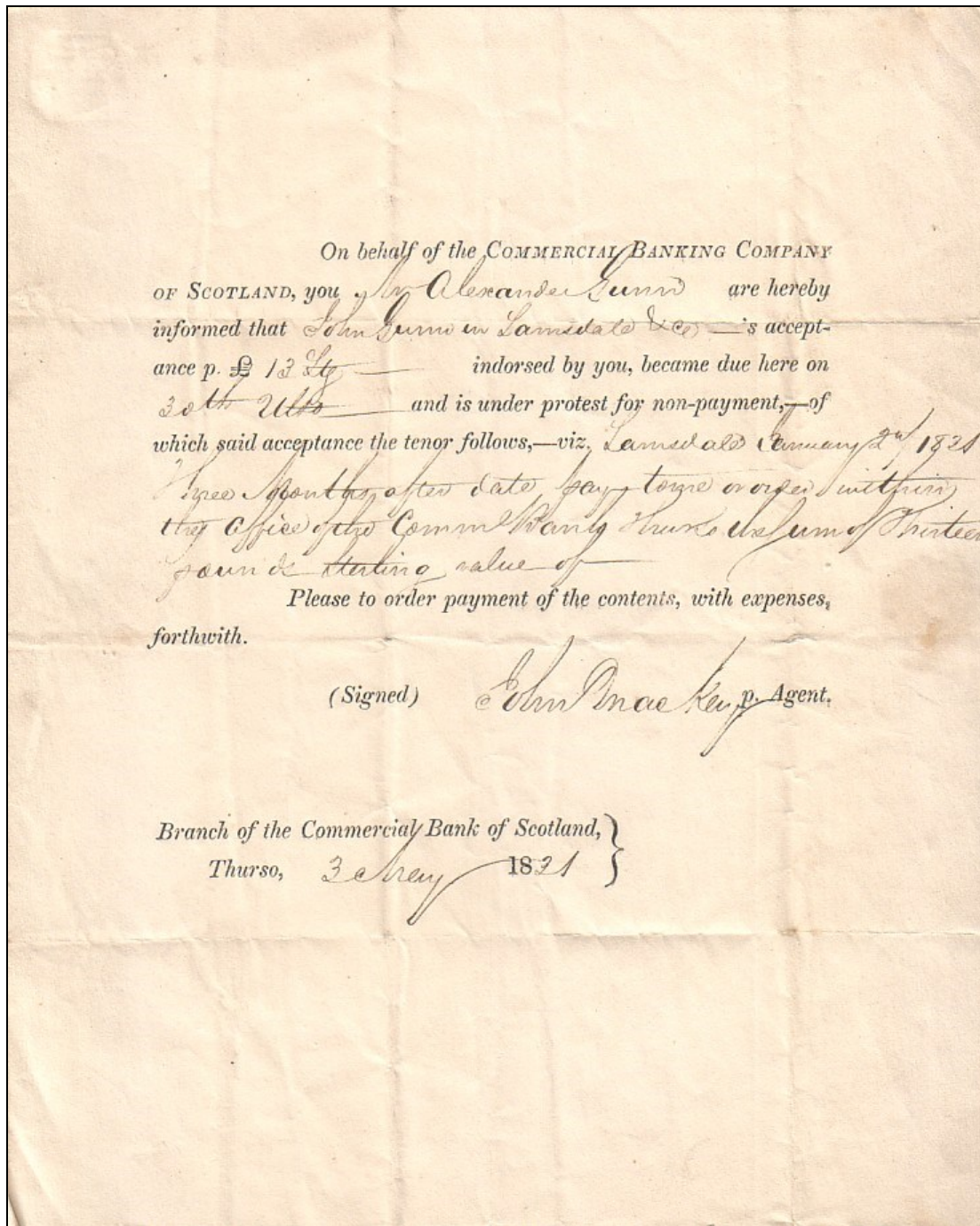
To WILLIAM MILLER, Jun.

Freight and Shore-Dues, per the <i>carrier</i>	£	s	d.
from <i>Edin 1 bale Lear 1 bag nail 1 cask</i>			
Cartage and Portage, to and from Warehouse, ...			
Warehouse Rent, ... Agency, }		2	-
Received Payment, <i>Miller</i>		2	-

The bills and receipts continue. There is a bill from the Commercial Banking Company of Scotland for the non-payment of a thirteen pound bill "indorsed" by Alexander made to John Gunn Lamsdale(?) on January 2 and payable three months later (it was signed by John Mackay the Bank's agent on 3 May 1831). It was addressed to the shoemaker Boulchork. It shows a manuscript 1d cost and the boxed black Thurso (origin) mark. (Only the relevant section is shown.)



The bill is –



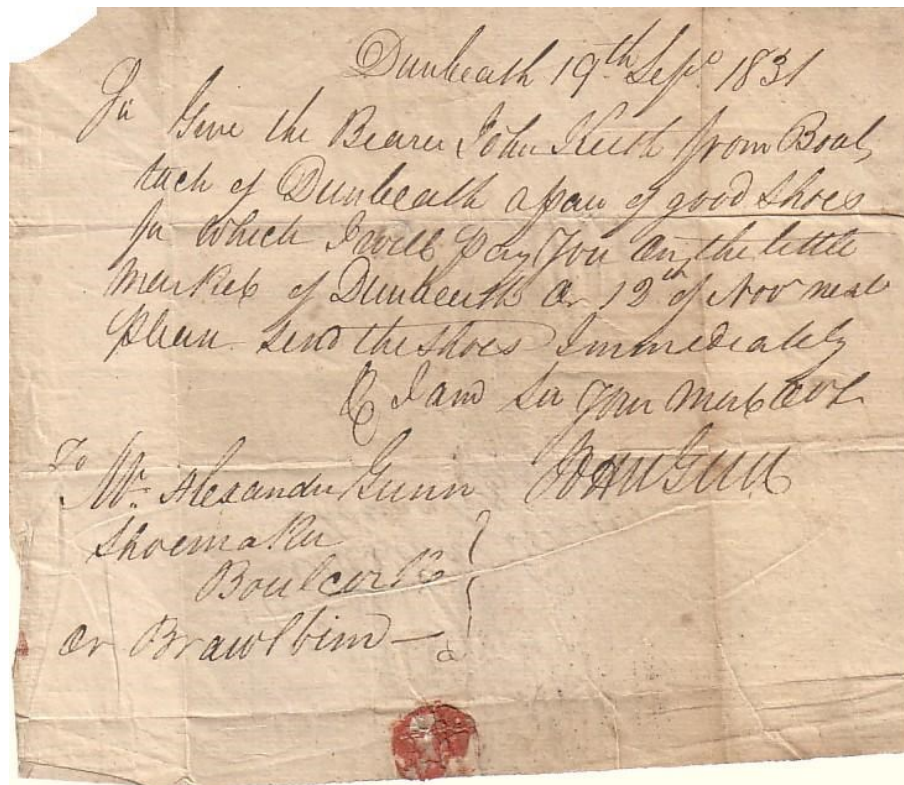
The next unusual event is Alexander's relationship with a John Gunn, presumably not his brother. Note the double address on the following for Alexander; he is 'Shoemaker Boulcork or Brawlbin'. But the address on the front is more definite; Alexander is now 'Shoemaker Brawlbin'.

There is also a note from Dunbeath 19th Sept. 1831 which reads

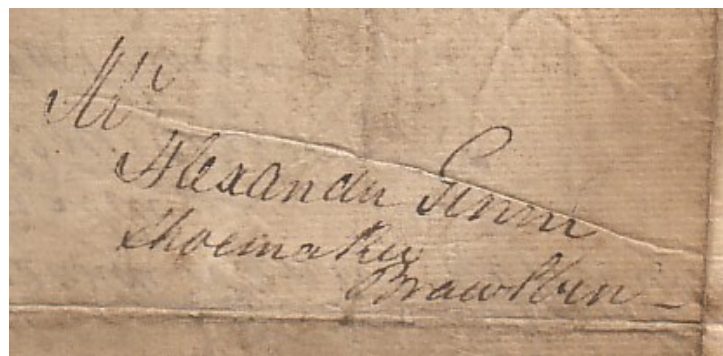
Sir Give the Bearer John Keith from Boul tack of Dunbeath a pair of good shoes for which I will pay you on the little market of Dunbeath on 12th of Nov next please send the shoes immediately

I am Sir your servant

John Gun



Dunbeath 19th Sept 1831
Giv the Bearer John Keith from Boul
tack of Dunbeath a pair of good shoes
for which I will pay you on the little
market of Dunbeath on 12th of Nov next
please send the shoes immediately
I am Sir your servant
To Mr Alexander Gunn
Shoemaker
Boulcort
or Brawbim



Alexander Gunn
Shoemaker
Brawbim

Given that there are no marks on the exterior of the letter it was, presumably, hand delivered.

The next note is from John Gunn Constable, the handwriting and signature seems to be the same. It is a difficult document to read as it has been poorly 'restored'—

Upon the Sixth day of June Eighteen Hundred and thirty three years , I John Gunn Constable , by virtue of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, their (e)nacted Decree, dated at Thurso the Twenty third day of February Eighteen Hundred and Thirty Three years. Raised at the instance of Hector Mackay Achlipester against Donald Sutherland Dalnaglaton and Peter Matheson there. I lawfully fenced(?) and arrested in the hands of Alexander Gunn Achorley and William Gunn there, and Donald Gunn Banskirke sums of (mon)ey owing by them to the aforesaid Peter Matheson or to defen(d) or to any other ... or persons for his use and behalf and all goods and effects in the custody of the said arresters belonging to the said Defendant and that to an amount or extent not exceeding the sum of Five Pounds Sterling all to remain under sure fence and some time... at the foresaid complaining instance until the said complainers be fully satisfied and paid of principal sum upon said Decree and expenses account of Law.

This I did by delivering a just copy of arrestment to Alexander Gunn personally, and by leaving a copy of said arrestment in the Key hole of the most patent door of the othe other partys dwelling house, as I could not find access therein which copy of arrestments were subscribed by me and bore the date hereof, and date of said Decree -all which is true

John Gunn Constable



It's an interesting document...

The final document from John Gunn—'Sherriff officer Braehour' as he now describes himself—is to certify that Alexander's bill is correct. He had run a bill for £2/6/- for shoes slippers boots and 'oate meale' between 1829 and 1833. There is a later note—for 1842—to subtract the balance of the account Alexander owed at court – 2s. 5d. The exact nature of the relationship between the two is interesting (and unclear) especially given where John Gunn lived. The 1841 census records John Gunn Sherriff at Braehour, along with his wife, probably his father and four children. Areas such as Braehour should be considered as estates with various houses; the 1841 census records 40 occupied houses and 172 adults for Brawlbin.

The most important letter of this time is the tenancy letter for the sixteen acre farm of Brawlbin (there were 'perennial springs, remarkable for the purity and lightness of their waters...rather of a whitish colour' in the Brawlbin area¹⁴⁵) made with James Sinclair Esq. of Forss¹⁴⁶ for a fourteen year period.

¹⁴⁵P.15, The New Statistical Account of Scotland Vol. XV

¹⁴⁶<http://www.electricscotland.com/history/nation/sinclair.htm> accessed 8 November 2009; 'In Caithness-shire are also the Sinclairs of Forss, an estate acquired from the Earl of Sutherland in 1560, the representative of which family, James Sinclair, Esq. of Forss, advocate, succeeded his father in 1822; the Sinclairs of Lybster; the Sinclairs of Freswick; and other families of the name.' Also see J.T. Calder's *The History of Caithness*. For a full history of the Sinclairs of Forss see <http://www.fionamsinclair.co.uk/genealogy/Caithness/Forss.htm> and note that at least one of them was killed in the well known Gunn / Sinclair feud of the late 1500s. James Sinclair of Forss's third son was George William Sinclair 1831-1876 who was buried at Mt. Koroit cemetery in rural Victoria, Australia.



Forss House 2011

Given that he is 'of Brawlbin' by late summer 1831 it is surprising that it takes this long for a permanent lease to be made. Was he earlier on a short term lease to prove his worth? The lease reads:

Forss 30 June 1834

Sir,

I make offer of sixteen pounds stg. of yearly Rent payable in equal parts at Martinmas and Whitsunday after Entry for the place occupied presently by me on a lease of fourteen years from Whitsunday last. I bind myself to cultivate the farm in a proper manner and in a regular rotation of six crops, viz: Turnip or Fallow, Bear with grass seeds, Hay, pasture for one or two years followed by one or two white Crops - And bind myself to pay an additional Rent of ten shillings per acre for every acre not so cropped during the first ten years of the lease And forty shillings for every acre not so cropped during the last four years and left on this rotation at the end of the lease.

I bind myself to leave all the dung made on the farm after laying down the last Crop but one to the incoming tenant as also one tenth of the Ground in Labor for fallow or Green Crops with liberty to plough the same at Martinmas before any out going for which measure I am to receive payment according to a valuation made by Sir now mutually chosen

I bind myself to consume all the straw and Chaff on the farm And it is understood that I am to receive the Hay or first Crop of the Ground or Grass of the first year at my out going with liberty to cut the same and ferry it away or stack it or stack it in a Convenient place while it is sold

I am to receive valuation at the end of the lease for the mason work of such of the houses as shall be rebuilt by me according to the aware of two men mutually chosen-

I am also to receive payments according to a valuation made as above for such stone fences as I may build between the arable land and the hill and leave in Good Repair the Same having been first approved of and lined off by the proprietor

I am your obtst

Alexr. Gunn

Sir

I agree to and accept of the foregoing offer on condition that no houses are to be rebuilt or erected by you except such as are indispensably necessary for the farm. And shall have first been approved of by me. Also that you are expressly prohibited from assigning or subletting that you agree to pay one half the expenses of a regular Tarh (tenant?) when called upon so to do

I am Sir yours

Ja^s Sinclair

To Alexander Gunn

Tenant Brawlbin

It is an interesting and complex agreement which provided a base for Alexander and Barbara for the rest of their lives.

Nov 3rd 1834

James Dunlop Esq
of Fife

I make offer of
sixteen pounds 10s. of yearly Rent payable in
equal parts at Michaelmas and Whitsunday
after Entry for the place occupied presently
by me on a Lease of fourteen years from
Whitsunday last. I bind myself to cultivate
the farm in a proper manner and in a
regular rotation of six Crops, viz. Turnip
or Fallow, Bar with Grass seeds, Hay, pasture
for one or two years followed by six or three
White Crops - And bind myself to pay an
additional Rent of ten shillings per acre for
every acre not so cropped during the first four
years of the Lease and forty shillings for every
acre not so cropped during the last four
years and left in that rotation at the end
of the Lease.

I bind myself to leave all the dung
made on the farm after laying down the
last Crop but one to the incoming tenant
as also one sixth of the Dromed in Labor

for fallow or Green Crops with liberty
to plough the same at Martinmas before my
outgoing for which I am to receive
payments according to a Valuation made by
two Men mutually Chosen -

I bind myself to consume all the
Straw and Chaff on the farm And it is
understood that I am to receive the Hay
or first Crop of the Ground in Grass of
the first year At my outgoing with
liberty to cut the same and carry it away
or stack it in a convenient place until
it is sold -

I am to receive ^{at the end of the Lease} Valuation for the Mason
work of Smith ^{of the} houses as shall be rebuilt by
me ~~at the end of the lease~~ according to the
award of two Men mutually Chosen -

I am also to receive payment ac-
-cording to a Valuation made as above
for such Stone fences as I may build
between the arable land and the Heath
and leave in good Repair the same
having been first approved of and
lined off by the proprietor -

I am your most Obedt.
Alfred Gunner

I agree to and accept of the foregoing
 offer on condition that no houses are to
 be rebuilt or erected by you except such
 as are indispensably necessary for the farm
 and shall have first been approved of
 by me — Also that you are expressly
 prohibited from assigning or subsetting
 that you agree to pay one half
 the expense of a regular tack
 when called upon so to do
 I am Sir
 To Mr Andrew Gunn your
 Tenant O Brawlbin La Humeau

After
 the
 receipt
 from
 the
 1834

Larger than actual size

And the outside reads something like; '... Gunn Brawlbin 14+ years lease .. (signature) 1834'.

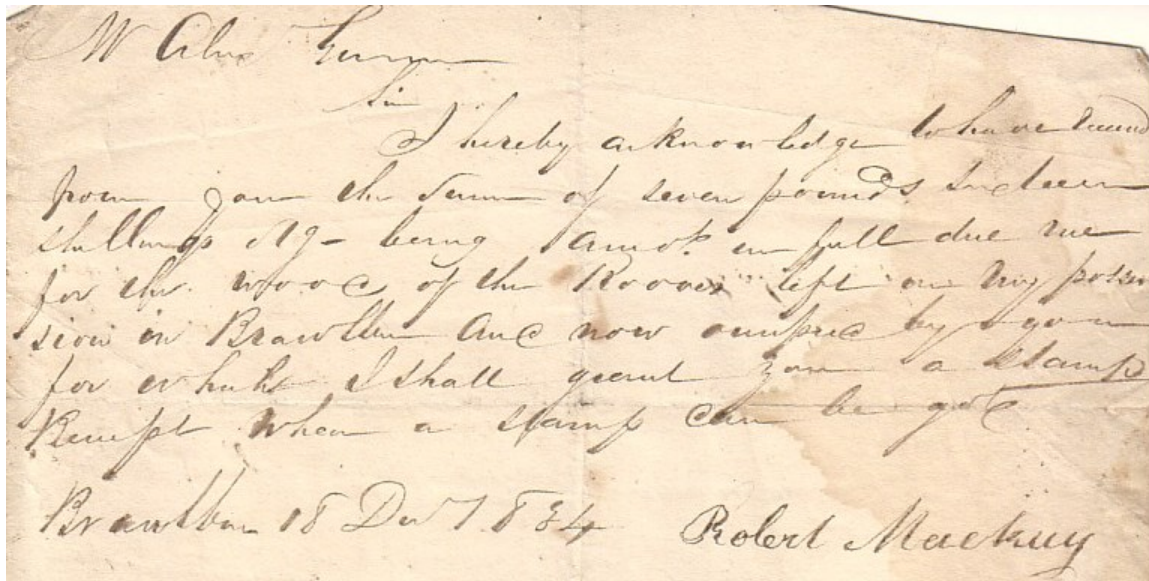
There is a final receipt for this period from Robert Mackay for seven pounds sixteen shillings and 9d

Mr Alexr Gunn

Sir

I hereby acknowledge to have Received from you the sum of seven pounds sixteen shillings Stg being amount in full due me for the wool of the Rams(?) left in my possession in Brawlbin and now -----(?) by you for which I shall I grant you a stamp Receipt when a stamp can be got.

Brawlbin 15 Decr 1834 Robert Mackay



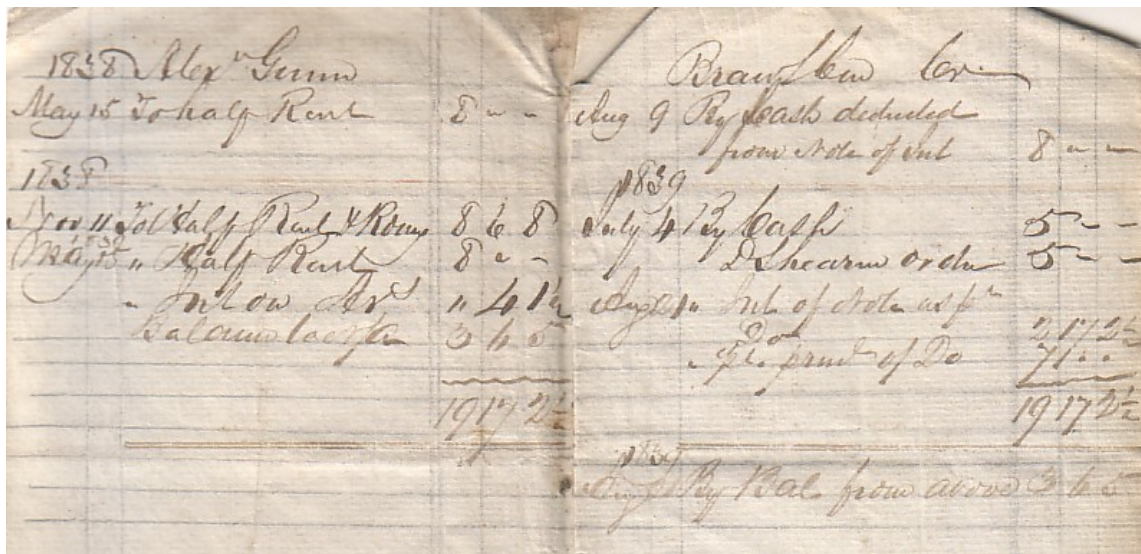
Mr Alexr Gunn
I hereby acknowledge to have Received
from you the sum of seven pounds sixteen
shillings Stg - being amount in full due me
for the wool of the Rams(?) left in my possession
in Brawlbin and now comprised by you
for which I shall grant you a stamp
Receipt when a stamp can be got.
Brawlbin 15 Decr 1834 Robert Mackay

Were these goods related to the lease acquisition? At this point it is impossible to tell.

There is a limited statement of account made by Alexander from May 1838 to Nov 1838.



Alexr Gunn
Brawlbin



He paid the rent in roughly half yearly amounts. Mainly this was in cash 'deducted from role of int.'

The 1830s though was not just about money and land—this was when his five children were born. First there was Catherine (1830-1912) then Donald (1832-1901) then Janet Macleod (1834-1913) then John (1836-c.1856 who died without issue) and William (1839- d. after 1863, who also died without issue). He was also religious at least to a degree. He kept a family Bible which he used to record the details about the family—

Alexr Gunn was born 1789
 and died on the 29th March 1847
 My wife Barbra Gunn born April 17 1810
 Died on the 28th. February 1844
 My Daughter Kitty Born May 13 1830
 Dito Donald Gunn Born March 28 1832
 Dito Jannet Gunn Born May 8th 1834
 Dito John Gunn Born February 12th 1836
 William Gunn Born January 10th 1839

See page 102 for the original document.

The receipts continue for the 1840s. Firstly there are payments for the relief of the poor.


No. 60 TO *Mr. Alexander Gunn Brawolbin*

TAKE NOTICE, that by a meeting of the Parochial Board of Reay, held on the eleventh day of February, 1847, an Assessment of Ten per Cent on the Rental was imposed—the one half payable, in terms of the 34th Sec. of the Act, by the Owners; the other half by the Tenants or Occupants of all Lands and Heritages within the Parish, of the yearly rent or value of Two Pounds Sterling and upwards, for Relief of the Poor of said Parish of Reay—for the year, from Martinmas 1846 to Martinmas 1847—and in terms thereof, you are Assessed in the sum undernoted; and the same is payable to the Collector at the School-house of Reay, on Thursday the Fifteenth day of April next.

As Proprietor, on a Rental of.....£
 As Tenant or Occupant, on a Rental of.....£ *16. 0. 0*£ — *16/-*

JAMES McLAREN, Collector.

N.B.—The Parochial Board will sit at Reay on Thursday, the First day of April, 1847, from Eleven o'clock forenoon to Three o'clock afternoon, for the purpose of hearing objections, if any, to your assessment; after which no objection will be received.

 Please bring this Notice to the Collector at Payment.

The 1847 official notice for the 'Relief of the Poor'.

No. 14- Reay. *June 11th 1846.*

Received of *Alexander Gunn in Brawolbin*
 the sum of *Sixteen Shillings 8/-*
 being *his* assessment for the support of the Poor, of the
 parish of Reay, for the year, from Martinmas 1845, to Martinmas
 1846, on a Rent of £ as Proprietor;
 and of £ *16—* as Occupant.
 £ — *16/-* *James McLaren* Collector.

The 1846 receipt for the 'Relief of the Poor'.

No. 60- Reay, April 19th. 1847

Received of Mr Alexander Gordon Brauther
the sum of *sixteen shillings Sterling*
being *his* assessment for the support of the Poor of the
parish of Reay, for the year, from Martinmas, 1846, to Mar-
tinmas, 1847, on a Rent of £ as
Proprietor; and of £16. —. — as Occupant.
£ — 16/- James W. Lorne Collector.

The 1847 receipt for the 'Relief of the Poor'.

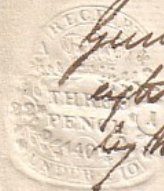
Presumably other receipts / bills for this purpose existed.

Then there were the rental payments (note the impressed rental stamps on the left hand side with a 'tax' rate of 3d for payments under £10)


*Shew 1 July 1840 Received from Alexander
Gordon in Brauther Eight Pounds Sterling
as the half Rent payable by him at the
term of Martinmas last.*

Murdoch

1 July 1840


 Thurs 9 Decr 1840 Recd from Alexander
 Gunn Tenant in Brawlbain the sum of
 five Pounds Eight Shillings and
 eight pence in payment of the half Rent due
 by him at Craighall last
 Wm Manson
 Cash Paid 18 8
 Int 2 8
 20 6 8

9 December 1840


 Thurs 22 Novr 1842 Received from Alex
 Gunn Tenant in Brawlbain the sum of
 Five Pounds Eighteen Shillings and eight
 pence which with his Receipt for Two Pounds
 eight Shillings of Interest on his money in
 Brawlbain makes up the half Rent
 and Crockery (due by him at Craighall last
 Wm Manson

22 November(?) 1842

Thurs 18 July 1844 Received from Alexander
 Gunn Tenant in Brawlbain the sum of Eight Pounds
 Sterling in payment of the half Rent due by him
 to Mr Sinclair of Fife, at the term of 16 Wednesday
 last
 Wm Manson

18 July 1844

Thursd 9th December 1844 - Received from
 Alexander Gunn Tenant in Brawallin the sum
 of Six Pounds Sterling which with Two Pounds Six
 shillings and eight pence of interest pays up the
 half rent and road money due by him at Martinmas
 last. — Wm Marshall

9 December 1844

But the most fascinating is the below receipt—

Thursd 27th Novemb^r 1845 - Received from Widow Alexander
 Gunn Tenant in Brawallin Six Pounds Sterling in cash, which
 with receipt for Two Pounds Six shillings and eight pence of
 interest on Mr Sinclair's note to her son dated 9th December
 last, is in payment of the half rent due by her at
 Martinmas last. — Wm Marshall

It is dated 27(?) November 1845 and it is to the 'Widow Alexander Gunn' and makes reference to 'her son'—
 this clearly implies that Alexander has died. But the family Bible on page 102 (rarely are such things wrong)
 recorded his death as March 1847! Both cannot be right! It seems likely that the above is 'wrong' as other
 later receipts for Alexander exist.

Alexander was still running accounts with a variety of places and times; assorted further bills are shown—

Mr Alexander Gunn Bual Hamilton
to Don Hamilton Cash
To Balance of account ending 21st Nov 1840 £. 15.7
1841 Sept 11 By Cash in full ————— 15.7
Don Hamilton

1841 Mr. A. Gunn Bual Hamilton
to Don Hamilton Cash
To Rent of Shop & place £. 5
1841 Dec 11 By Cash ————— 5
Don Hamilton

Thurs 5 May 1846
Recd from Alex Gunn when the sum
of Five Pounds & four Pence by
Geo. Craig & Co
£5.4.0 by

1845
 November 1 Mr. Herr Gum farmer Brandt Bin
 to John Campbell & Smith
 mounting a Cart 26 lb at 50 10 8
 repairing old mounting 2 6
 ringing 4 wheels 2
 4 new shafts of my team 3
 April 21 new shafts and 2 removed 13
 1846
 Paid by Cash in full to J. Campbell 18 6

Mr. Herr Gum
 1844 to Dr. Hamilton L. 16-14
 July 29 to Groff & Co. L. 16-14
 April 3 by Cash " 16-14
 Dr. Hamilton

Thuro 21 May 1847
 Received from Mr. Alexander W.B.
 32 larks a quo 10 rps George H.

There were more detailed accounts held as well—

May 20 To Cash to John Campbell B. V. £ 2-2-6
 Jun 14 To Cash to Mr. Hanson £ 5-
 Oct 2 To Cash to Mr. Hanson £ 10-
 " To Cash to Mr. Hanson £ 1-4-
 Nov 3 To Cash to Mr. Hanson £ 3-6
 5 To Cash for East Post £ 17-
 Aug 12 To Cash for Small £ 9-
 July 4 To Cash £ 13-18-10
 March 3 To Cash £ 14-1-4
 1846
 Nov 21 By Cash for Metastat £ 2-2
 1847
 July 9 By 15-2 cash 2411/6
 By 3/4 p 9 24-18
 26-17
 William Low £ 12-12-8

1845 To Cash at Anderson's £ 4-10-6
 1845 To Cash at the amount of £ 4-7-6
 July 22 By 2 Carts of Beets £ 4-11-
 1846
 Aug 10 To Cash £ 7-6
 24 To Cash £ 1-
 1845 Nov 3 To Cash in Loan £ 1-
 1846 July 10 To Cash 2/6 - 20 - To Cash 1/6 - 13-6
 March 3 To Cash 2/6 - 23 - To Cash 1/6 - 1-6
 Balance of former A/c £ 3-12-6
 1846 Aug 10 By 1/2 bushel meal 1/6 - 5-9--
 20 By 3 qrs Bean 2 bolls - 5-4-6
 July 12 By 3 qrs do 2 49/6 - 3-12-6
 Balance due £ 4-11-8
 to A. Lunn
 Balance of former £ 4-11-8
 Sect
 Paid there: Lunn Bay
 Alex: Lunn delivered him
 by the carrier D. G. L. L.
 L. L.

Alexander died in 1847; Barbara had predeceased him in 1844. The eldest child was Catherine who, in 1847 was around seventeen years of age. The eldest son was Donald and he was approximately 15 years old. The death of both parents would obviously cause major discussions in what is left of the young family. To put it simply, Donald stepped up and became the adult of the house as is shown by his biography. That's pressure.

A late bill to Alexander ('+ son') was bill No. 712 from the Inland Revenue (Stamps & Taxes), Thurso 1 February 1850. It demanded payment 9/4d under schedule A. This was roughly two years after Alexander's death.

No. 712

INLAND REVENUE, (STAMPS & TAXES),
THURSO, 1st FEBRUARY, 1850.

Sir,

As the Assessment Books of the Property and Income Tax of this County, for the Year 1849, ending 5th April, 1850, are now in my hands with PEREMPTORY INSTRUCTIONS to make an IMMEDIATE COLLECTION of the Taxes; and as the Courts for hearing Appeals are now past for the current year, I have to request that you will without delay, and at latest, on or before 25th March next, pay or cause to be paid to me or to Mr. Sub-Collector at Wick, the amount of the said Taxes as undernoted,

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
ALEX. SINCLAIR, Collector.

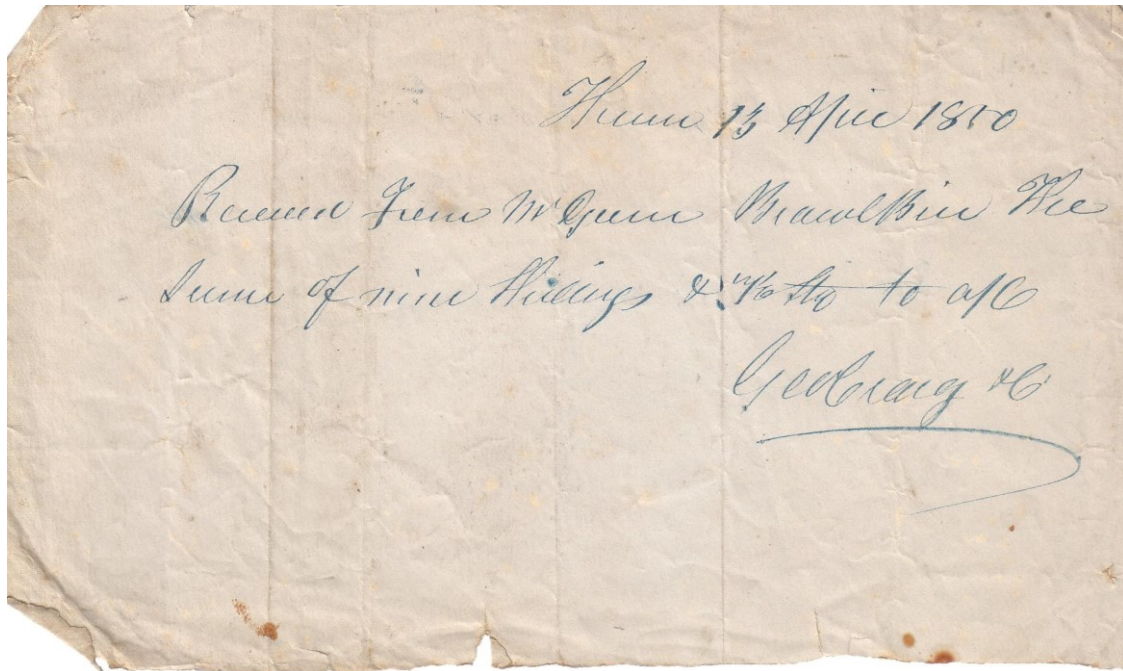
Mr. Gunn & Son

Bawlbm SCHEDULE A, £ 9/4 B, £ D, £ Total, £ 9/4

OBSERVE,—No further notice will be given. Please bring or send this notice at payment.
Office hours from 10 to 3 o'Clock,—On Saturdays from 10 to 12 o'Clock.

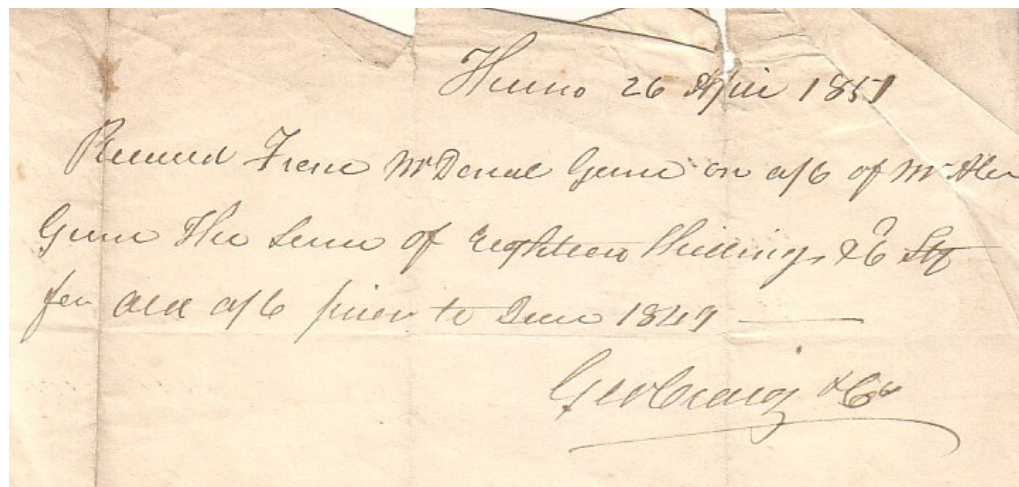
The one following reads-

Thurso 13 April 1850
Received from Mr Gunn Brawlbin the
Sum of nine shillings + to a/c
Geo Craig & Co



Thurso 13 April 1850
Received from Mr Gunn Brawlbin the
Sum of nine shillings & 1/2 to a/c
Geo Craig & Co

This was not the last gasp—his son Donald cleared the following account with Geo. Craig and Co. of the 18/6d owing on the 26 April 1851 over three years after Alexander's death!



Thurso 26 April 1851
Received from Mr Donald Gunn on a/c of Mr Alex
Gunn the Sum of eighteen shillings & 6 pence
for acc a/c prior to June 1849 —
Geo Craig & Co

As said, the family would have been in an awkward position; they were very young to be left without parents.



Brawlbin farm, 2011



Brawlbin farm, 2011

The ongoing Clan Gunn Chief Braehour line

To restate from the Introduction - the ongoing traditional Clan Gunn Chief Braehour line has a link to the Tormsdale Gunns as Alexander Gunn (a Tormsdale Gunn) married Barbara Gunn in Braehour.

Barbara Gunn was the eldest daughter of Donald Gunn (Sennachie 1770-1861) and Catherine Gunn (1781-1870), they were married in 1807. Donald the Sennachie's father was John in Dalnaha, and later Braehour (d.1810) and he married Marjory ('May') Dunbar of Hempriggs in 1745. His father was Alexander of Dalnaglaton d. 1765 (see pages 7-8) who married Janet McLeod.

Alexander of Dalnaglaton's mother was Margaret Gunn, daughter of Chief Donald Crotach Gunn and her father was John Gunn of the Borrobol (MacHeorish) Gunn line.

Alexander's older brother was George from whom came the Clan Gunn Chief line established by the supreme court of Scotland in the 1800s, namely the Court of Session. That line ran out of Gunns – the traditional Clan Gunn Chief line descends now from Alexander Gunn of Dalnaglaton.

The College of Arms in London has registered my genealogy back to Alexander Gunn of Dalnaglaton so my descent from the traditional Clan Gunn Chief line is now legally proved.¹⁴⁷

The 2015 establishment of a modern Clan Gunn Chief is wrong for many reasons not least as it was established on the basis that no-one could prove descent to the traditional Clan Gunn Chief line. How this problem will resolve itself only time will tell.



Braehour farmhouse, 2011

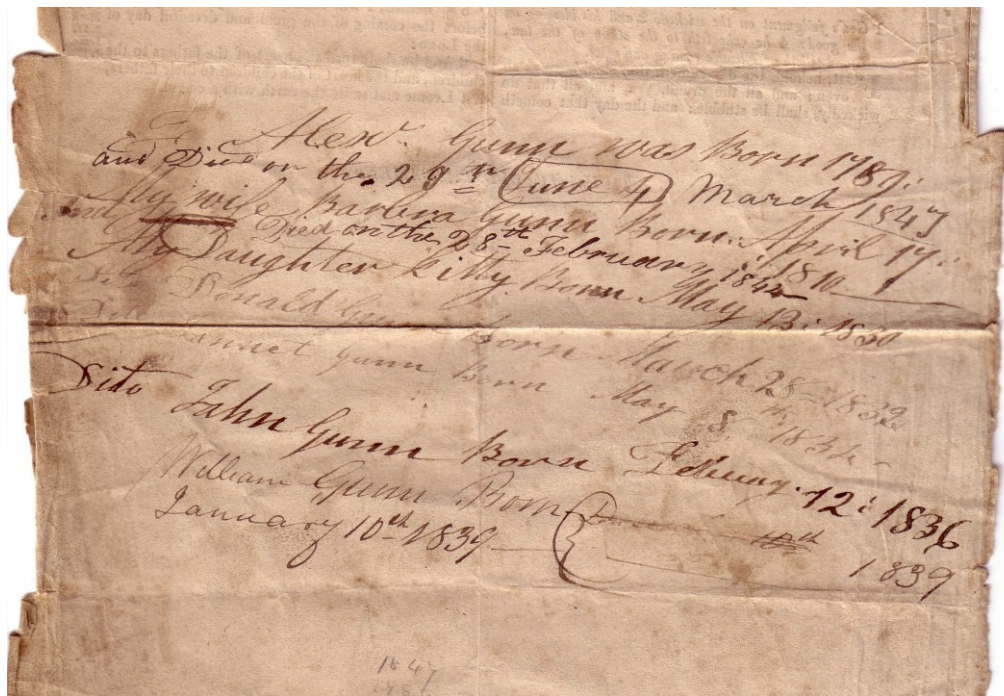
¹⁴⁷Legally proved in England, Wales and parts of the British Commonwealth. Scottish law is not part of the United Kingdom's law.

Alexander's wife Barbara GUNN in Braehour (of the Clan Gunn Chief line)

The second child and first girl of Donald Braehour and Brawlbin and Catherine Osclay Gunn was Barbara Gunn. She was christened on 30 March 1810 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness, but her husband's family Bible records her birth date as 17 April 1810.¹⁴⁸ It is unusual for the family Bible to be wrong; but still more so for the Halkirk Parish Register. For the Bible entry see the following—

She married Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin, son of Donald Gunn in Tormsdale and Janet MacKenzie of Dunbeath, on 19 March 1829 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹⁴⁹ She and Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin appeared on the census of 6 June 1841 in Brawlbin, Caithness.¹⁵⁰ Barbara died on 28 February 1844 at Brawlbin, Caithness, aged 33.¹⁵¹

She was of the continuing Clan Gunn Chief line being descended from Margaret Gunn, daughter of Chief Doanld Crotach Gunn.



The family Bible page for Alexander and Barbara Gunn, written c. 1847

¹⁴⁸ *Bible of Alexander Gunn*: my wife, Barbra Gunn born April 17 1810. Parish Register – Baptism Halkirk Parish Register. 1810 Gunn Barbara lawful daughter of Donald Gunn and Catherine Gunn in Braehour was baptised 30th March. Elizabeth Tait there and Donald Murray, Olgrinmore Witnesses.

¹⁴⁹ *LDS Church*, Marriage, Alexander Gunn, Barbara Gunn, 19 Mar 1829, Halkirk, Caithness; Parish Records: Marriages 1829 - Alexander of Bualchork married Barbara Gunn of Braehour.

¹⁵⁰ UK Census 06 June 1841: District of Brawlbin lying in the south part of the Parish of Reay. Each person who abode in each house on night of 6 June 1841: Alexander Gunn 50 farmer; Barbara Gunn 30; Kathrine Gunn 11; Donald Gunn 9; John Gunn 5; Janet Gunn 7; William Gunn 2; all born in Caithness. Note: Census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual ie Alexander Gunn was between 50 and 55 and Barbara between 30 and 35 on 6 June 1841. Birth years are thus Alexander 1786-1791 and Barbara 1806-1811.

¹⁵¹ *Bible of Alexander Gunn*: died on the 28th February 1844.

Children of Alexander Gunn and Barbara Gunn, all of Brawlbin & later Victoria, Australia

Children of Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin (1) and Barbara Gunn of Braehour (6) were:

*Alexander Gunn -
Born June 4th 1789 -
Died Mar. 29th 1847.*
*Barbara Gunn
Born April 17th 1810.
Died Feb^y 28th 1844.*
*Catherine Gunn.
Born May 13. 1830.*
*Donald Gunn -
Born March 28. 1832.*
*Janet Gunn
Born May 8th 1834*
*John Gunn
Born February 12. 1836
Died January 10. 1854.*
*William Gunn
Born January 10. 1839.*

ii. Donald Gunn in Brawlbin and Ballarat (3). (1832-1901)

iii. Janet 'McLeod' GUNN (120). (1834-1912)

iv. John GUNN (12)¹⁵² was born on 12 Feb 1836 in Reay Parish, Caithness.¹⁵³ He was christened on 20 Feb 1836 in Reay Parish, Caithness. He died circa Dec 1854 in Port Melbourne, Vic.

He appeared on the 1841 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of his parents Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin (1) and Barbara Gunn of Braehour (6), and on the 1851 Census in the household of his brother Donald (3). He left Caithness by steamer for Glasgow, thence Liverpool on 11 Jul 1853. On 21 Jul 1853 he

¹⁵²LDS Church, Christenings of children of Barbara Gunn, father Alexander Gunn Catherine, 18 May 1830, Halkirk; Donald, 9 Jun 1832, Reay; Janet, 19 Aug 1834, Reay; John, 29 Feb 1836, Reay.

¹⁵³Clan Gunn Parish Records: Births 1836 John Gunn, parents Alexander, Brawlbin - Barbara; UK Census 06 June 1841.

UK Census 30 March 1851: County of Caithness, Parish of Reay. Residents at Brawlbin. Donald Gunn head, unmarried 19, farmer, 16 acres, born Halkirk; Katherine Gunn sister, unmarried 20, general service, born Reay; Janet Gunn sister, unmarried 17, scholar, born Reay; John Gunn brother, unmarried 15, scholar born Reay; William Gunn brother, unmarried 12, scholar born Reay. *Bible of Alexander Gunn*: John Gunn born 12 February 1836.

emigrated from Liverpool, Merseyside, per sailing ship Tasmania, 1195 t, for voyage to Australia. He arrived in Melbourne, Vic, listed in the ship's manifest as John 'Gum' aged 24 on 25 Oct 1853.

v. William Gunn. (1839-1860)

The children of Alexander Gunn of Bualchork / Brawlbin and Barbara Gunn of the traditional Clan Gunn Chief line were -

i. **Catherine GUNN** (119) was born 13 May, 1830 Reay Parish, Caithness and died in Victoria, Australia in 1912. She was christened on 18 May 1830 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.¹⁵⁴ She married James Miller (117), son of John Miller (934) and Elizabeth Dunnet (935), on 13 Mar 1857 in the residence of John W Surman, Buninyong, Vic.¹⁵⁵ She died in 1912 in Vic. She appeared on the 1841 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of her parents Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin (1) and Barbara Gunn of Braehour (6).¹⁵⁶ She appeared on the 1851 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of Donald Gunn of Brawlbin & Ballarat (3).¹⁵⁷ James Miller sent home for his childhood sweetheart Catherine Gunn (119) in 1854.¹⁵⁸ Catherine (119) and Donald (3) arrived in Melbourne, Vic, aboard the 'Herald of the Morning' in Dec 1854. Catherine appears to have travelled under her mother's name Barbara Gunn.¹⁵⁹

She married James MILLER (117)¹⁶⁰ who was born in 1826 in Wick Parish, Caithness; in the north of Scotland.¹⁶¹ He died in 1918 in Vic at the age of 92, after 54 years with his company. He learned to be a

¹⁵⁴ LDS Church, Christenings of children of Barbara Gunn, father Alexander Gunn

Catherine, 18 May 1830, Halkirk; Donald, 9 Jun 1832, Reay; Janet, 19 Aug 1834, Reay; John, 29 Feb 1836, Reay.

¹⁵⁵ Certificate of Marriage, 1857 130 Marriages solemnized in the District of Buninyong: James Miller, Ship Chandler, age 28, born Wick Scotland, Bachelor resident Geelong, father John Miller, Builder, mother Elizabeth Dunnet, married Catherine Gunn, Servant, age 26, born Reay Scotland, Spinster resident Geelong, father Alexander Gunn, Farmer, Mother Barbara Gunn, according to the Rites of the Presbyterian Church.

¹⁵⁶ UK Census 06 June 1841: District of Brawlbin lying in the south part of the Parish of Reay. Each person who abode in each house on night of 6 June 1841: Alexander Gunn 50 farmer; Barbara Gunn 30; Kathrine Gunn 11; Donald Gunn 9; John Gunn 5; Janet Gunn 7; William Gunn 2; all born in Caithness. Note: Census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual so Alexander Gunn was between 50 and 55 and Barbara between 30 and 35 on 6 June 1841. Birth years are thus Alexander 1786-1791 and Barbara 1806-1811. The summary notes that there were 40 occupied houses, 2 uninhabited houses, 78 males and 94 females comprising 40 families in the Brawlbin District.

¹⁵⁷ UK Census 30 March 1851: County of Caithness, Parish of Reay. Residents at Brawlbin. Donald Gunn head, unmarried 19, farmer, 16 acres, born Halkirk; Katherine Gunn sister, unmarried 20, general service, born Reay; Janet Gunn sister, unmarried 17, scholar, born Reay; John Gunn brother, unmarried 15, scholar born Reay; William Gunn brother, unmarried 12, scholar born Reay. Brawlbin comprised 39 occupied houses with 70 males and 93 females. The census district of Brawlbin and Oldenbruch (?) was 12 miles in length and 2 miles in breadth. The majority of homes, 39, was in Brawlbin, with 3 in Oldenbruch accommodating 24 people.

¹⁵⁸ *The James Miller Story.*

¹⁵⁹ Unknown compiler, "Immigration to Victoria," *Ancestral File*, a Donald Gunn aged 27 arrived in Melbourne per the 'Herald of the Morning'. This is the only recorded Donald Gunn of the approximate age to arrive between late '54 & early '56. The ship's passenger list records John Raps(?), 22; Walter Williamson, 20; John Sutherland, 19; Hugh Murray, 22; Donald Gunn, 27; Barbara Gunn, 29 and Hugh Matheson, 36 all travelling together. There are no other names listed on the passenger list that could possibly be corruptions of Catherine. WW Gunn states Donald & Catherine travelled together—could Catherine for some reason travel under her mother's name? It's odd but in one author's view—namely Don Gunn—"it is a case of accepting the only possible record found. The timing fits. There were only two Gunns on that ship, Donald, 27 & Barbara, 29, when they were really 22 & 24. Not right ages, but near enough for the time—note that John was recorded as John Gum (not Gunn), aged 24, when he was really 17. At least Barbara is not an unconnected name. There weren't any other Gunns that could possibly fit in any other ship, although in those years there were certainly many people unrecorded. There are several records suggesting that Donald and Catherine travelled together. The 'Herald of the Morning' arrived at a time of year when heat stroke was a distinct possibility in Melbourne. As to why she would do so, I can't imagine, but so many things were odd then. Might have been something to do with a single woman travelling with another man, and assuming a mantle of maturity. Maybe she didn't have papers in her own name, but her mother in some way had. I think John was recorded as being from Ireland.' Email to Alastair Gunn January 7, 2009.

¹⁶⁰ Certificate of Marriage, 1857 879 marriages solemnized in the District of Buninyong.

¹⁶¹ From *The James Miller Story*, 'James Miller, the son of a stonemason and builder, came to Australia in 1850 from Wick, a small seaport of Caithness in the north-east of Scotland. There he had learnt the age-old craft of sail making.'

ropemaker & sailmaker in Wick in 1845. He emigrated on 28 Jun 1850 from London in the sailing ship *Australasia* and he arrived in Hobart, Tas, in Oct 1850. He was employed as a sailmaker for three voyages in the 'Lady Franklin' between Hobart and Norfolk Island in 1851. He settled in Melbourne one week before gold was discovered at Clunes in Jun 1851. He walked all the way from Melbourne to Ballarat in 1851. He left the diggings in 1852 and started a coal yard and ship chandler business in Geelong, Vic. He sent for his childhood sweetheart, Catherine Gunn, of Brawlbin in 1854. He was a ship chandler on 13 Mar 1857.¹⁶² He was the founder of Millers Ropes at Emerald Hill, later South Yarra, in partnership with Alexander Gray in 1862 in Vic. He sold the South Melbourne factory and bought river frontage at Yarraville in 1888. He dissolved the partnership and formed a limited company with son James as chairman and Gray as director on 07 Sep 1898. He wrote his reminiscences in 1913. He retired as Chairman & Managing Director of Millers Ropes in 1916 in Melbourne, Vic.

Children of Catherine Gunn (119) and James Miller (117) were as follows:

1. Elizabeth MILLER (278) was born in 1858 in Geelong, Vic.¹⁶³ She died in 1918 in Vic unmarried.
2. Alexander Gunn MILLER (279) was born in 1860 in Geelong, Vic.¹⁶⁴ He died in 1938 in Apollo Bay, Vic.¹⁶⁵

With only meagre savings behind him he worked for a while as a sailmaker in Van Diemen's Land, travelling on the ships trading between Van Diemen's Land and Norfolk Island. On one of these trips the cargo included a number of female convicts. The manner in which they were 'loaded' into the vessel, and the conditions under which they were carried, so disgusted the sailmaker that he left the ship in Sydney.

In the meantime the rush to the Victorian goldfields had set in. The discovery of the fabulously rich Ballarat and Bendigo fields, the first in Australia, resulted in fortunes for many diggers. James Miller decided to try his luck and, although he made no fortune, he was sufficiently successful to be able to establish his own small business as a ship chandler in Geelong.

In 1854 he sent home for his childhood sweetheart, Catherine Gunn, of Brawlbyn, Caithness, whom he married in 1857 in Geelong. They had six children, some of whom continued in the rope making business started by James.

James started his rope works at Emerald Hill, now South Melbourne, in 1862. A century later it was Australia's largest manufacturer of rope, cordage and associated products. Alexander Gray, another Scot, helped by providing capital for modern machinery. Then James brought to Australia his brothers-in-law: Peter Hogg, an experienced ropemaker, and George Murray, a carpenter.

In 1864, George Kinnear joined the staff to install and maintain machinery purchased from America. He was an engineer, but left the company in 1869 to establish his own successful enterprise.

With a nucleus of sound men, James was the first in Australia to introduce machinery for the preparing and spinning of vegetable fibres and the walk-laying of rope. The term 'ropewalk,' now a very old one, came from the spinner or ropemaker walking back and forth. The spinner wound a bunch of combed fibres around his waist, attached a few of the fibres to a hook and walked backwards while the driving wheel was turned by a fellow worker. As the hook revolved, the spinner fed out the fibre from the bundles around his waist. By the time he reached the end of the ropewalk a long piece of yarn had been spun. He repeated this operation until there were several yarns to twist together to form the 'strand.' Finally, three or more strands were twisted together thus 'laying' the rope. The James Miller enterprise was known originally not as a ropeworks but as a 'ropewalk.'

One day in 1888, James walked into the office and told the staff that he had sold the factory's South Melbourne site for 100,000 pounds. It was the height of the land boom. A deposit of 20,000 pounds was paid and the purchaser promptly resold at 125,000 pounds. And then the boom burst. Miller had only his deposit. Moreover he had contracted to build new works on a river frontage at Yarraville.

In the tragic years that followed, bank after bank closed its doors - including Miller's own bank. Left with the now unsaleable South Melbourne property on his hands, James was committed to substantial expenditure in the middle of the worst depression the colony had known. It must have been heartbreaking. Somehow the firm survived, the banks reconstructed and opened again, and by the time the depression was over, James' operations had all been transferred to Yarraville.

Not only were all debts paid, but James and his partner, Alexander Gray, managed to help friends who also faced ruin.

As a result of the land boom and the large number of bankruptcies that followed the crash of the 1890's, James and Gray, both now in their 70's, dissolved the partnership and formed a limited company on 7 Sep 1898, with James as Chairman and Gray one of the other two directors.

James Miller was a compassionate man. At the end of the first world war, and shortly before his death, the company built a canteen at the Yarraville factory. This was one of the very first to be provided by a company in Melbourne - at a time when concessions and benefits extended by employers to employees were a rarity. Full meals were not supplied, but light refreshments could be purchased. At James' direction, soup was supplied free to juveniles and female workers. It was his opinion that many arrived for work having had little or no breakfast and he considered they needed more than just the cold lunch they brought with them. This consideration toward employees and their personal problems is one reason that many grandchildren of original employees are on the payroll of the company today.'

James died at 92 in 1918, six years after Catherine's death, after 54 years with the company he founded.

¹⁶² Certificate of Marriage, 1857 No. 879 marriages solemnized in the District of Buninyong.

¹⁶³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1858 2500.

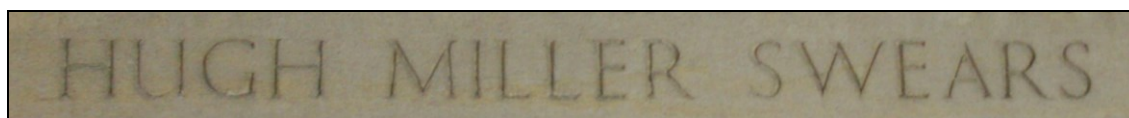
¹⁶⁴ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1860 3112.

¹⁶⁵ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1938 17395.

3. John William Gunn MILLER (280) was born in 1862 in Geelong, Vic.¹⁶⁶ He died in 1925 in St Kilda, Vic.¹⁶⁷

4. Jessie Barbara MILLER (284). was born in 1865 in Emerald Hill, Vic.¹⁶⁸ She married Charles James SWEARS (282) possibly in London in 1892. Charles James SWEARS (282) is not listed in Vic BDMs of the period.¹⁶⁹ Children of Jessie Barbara Miller (284) and Charles James Swears (282) were:

i. Hugh Miller SWEARS (286) was born after 1885. He died in 1917 in France. He attended Jesus College, Cambridge University.



From the Jesus College Honour Board, outside the College Chapel.

ii. Marjorie Gertrude SWEARS (287) was born 1896 / 7, London. She married the Rev. John E. C. Adams, 1926, in Devon.

iii. Dorothy Catherine SWEARS was born in 1903.

5. James Dunnet MILLER (281) was born in 1868 in Emerald Hill, Vic.¹⁷⁰ He matriculated to the University of Melbourne from Wesley College, Melbourne, in 1884. He was Secretary and a Director of Millers Ropes in 1918 and was known in Masonic and sporting circles. He died in 1933 in Heidelberg, Vic.¹⁷¹

6. Katherine Margaret Mackay MILLER (285). Katherine Margaret Mackay MILLER (285) was born in 1872 in Emerald Hill, Vic.¹⁷² She married William Porter Vine (283), son of James John Vine (1106) and Jane McDonald (1107), in 1895 in Vic.¹⁷³ William Porter VINE (283) was born in 1857 in Port Melbourne, Vic; age 66 at death in 1923. He died in 1923 in Prahran, Vic.¹⁷⁴ Children of Katherine Margaret Mackay Miller (285) and William Porter Vine (283) all born in St Kilda, Vic, were as follows:

i James Miller VINE (288) was born in Dec 1896.¹⁷⁵ He married Rosemary Caroline Stewart (1108). He began military service on 08 Mar 1915 in St Kilda, Vic, medical student, Next of kin

¹⁶⁶ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1862 14625.

¹⁶⁷ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1925 15460.

¹⁶⁸ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1865 8468.

¹⁶⁹ It is probable that Jessie was in England and met Charles James Swears there.

¹⁷⁰ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1869 2257.

¹⁷¹ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1933 460.

¹⁷² Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1872 8854.

¹⁷³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1895 880.

¹⁷⁴ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1923 16539.

¹⁷⁵ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1896 7042.

was his father, William P. Vine, 11 Redan Street, East St Kilda.¹⁷⁶ He ended military service on 21 Sep 1919 in Melbourne, Vic; awarded 1914/18 Star No.31853, British War Medal, No.9838, Victory Medal No.9749.

ii William Alan VINE (290) was born in Jun 1898.¹⁷⁷ He died on 11 Oct 1917 at age 19, killed in action. He began military service on 17 Jul 1916 in St Kilda, Vic, clerk, NOK father, William P Vine, 11 Redan Street, St Kilda, Victoria.

iii. Catherine Noel VINE (291) was born in 1900.¹⁷⁸ She died in 1903 in Melbourne South, Vic.¹⁷⁹

iv. Francis Seymour VINE (292) was born in 1904.¹⁸⁰ He died in 1961 in Somersby, Vic.¹⁸¹ He was managing director of Millers Ropes (**See Part 7**) until 1960.¹⁸² He was appointed C.M.G in 1957 in Vic.

v. Reginald Vernon VINE (694) was born in 1908.¹⁸³ He died on 21 Dec 1987 in NSW.¹⁸⁴

vi. Lesley Alison VINE (289) was born in 1914.¹⁸⁵

¹⁷⁶ Army Attestation Paper.

¹⁷⁷ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1897 23048.

¹⁷⁸ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1900 6741.

¹⁷⁹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1903 2799.

¹⁸⁰ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1904 29047

¹⁸¹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1961 1813

¹⁸² **See Part 7.**

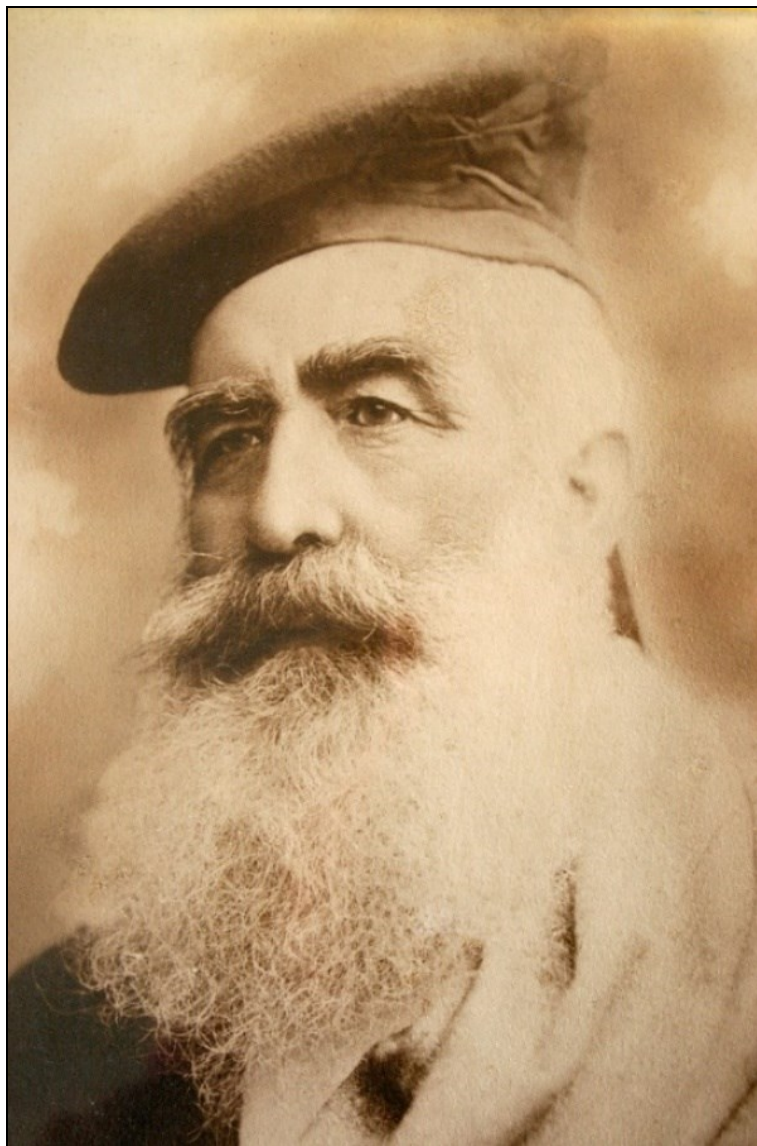
¹⁸³ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1908 30378.

¹⁸⁴ Ryerson Index, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 Dec 1987

¹⁸⁵ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1914 17055

ii. **Donald GUNN, Scotland** (3) was born 28 March, 1832 Reay Parish, Caithness and died Ballarat, Victoria in 1901.

With mother Barbara Gunn 1810-1844 of the Braehour continuing Clan Gunn Chief line, who married Alexander Gunn of Bualchork (Tormsdale line).



Donald Gunn

DONALD'S EARLY LIFE - THE HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND

Donald Gunn was born on 28 March 1832 at Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, Scotland.¹⁸⁶

He was the eldest son – and second of five children – of Barbara Gunn in Brae hour and Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin. All the children emigrated to, and died in, Australia.¹⁸⁷ His siblings were –

Catherine Gunn 1830 – 1912 married James Miller.

Janet Gunn 1834 – 1913, married John W. Surman with descendants not Gunns. John Surman is Donald's brother-in-law; Donald married John Surman's sister.

John Gunn 1836 – 1854

William Gunn 1839 – 1901?

Donald's mother Barbara was the second child¹⁸⁸ of Donald Gunn of Brae hour and Brawlbin and Catherine Gunn in Osclay. Barbara and Alexander married on 19 March 1829 – she was nineteen years old; he was forty.

Donald's father Alexander was born in 1789 and had thought of migrating to join his uncle¹⁸⁹ William MacKenzie in Jamaica (who had been involved in the slave trade when he first arrived in that country) in 1817, but Alexander did not leave Scotland.¹⁹⁰ Alexander had a farm at Bualchork by 1821 and was also a successful shoemaker and saddle maker. By 1830 he had moved to Brawlbin farm, this was rented from the Forss Estate.

The real problem for Donald was that his mother died on 28 February 1844 and his father died on 29 March 1847 – his father had been in 'poor health' since at least January 1846. Donald was aged about fifteen at the time of his father's death and his older sister was around seventeen. The welfare state was not in existence – this situation could shatter a family.

Donald stepped up and became the 'man of the house.' Various receipts exist in the name of 'Donald Gunn Brawlbin' from January 1848, these include school fees for his three younger siblings, Poor Relief demands, a sizeable doctor's bill in 1852 and various other bills including a large amount for four and half gallons of whisky and porter in May 1853. As well, by March 1851 he was the named tenant farmer of the sixteen-acre farm.¹⁹¹ Remember, Donald took on these responsibilities when aged fifteen - it must have been stressful.

¹⁸⁶ Parish Records: Births 1832 Donald Gunn, parents Alexander, Brawlbin - Barbara; *Bible of Alexander Gunn*: Donald Gunn born 28 Mar 1832.

¹⁸⁷ It is worth clarifying the history – Victoria was an independent British Colony until the federation of Australia occurred on 1 January 1901.

¹⁸⁸ The oldest child was **John Gunn of Durness**, no Gunn named descendants now exist.

¹⁸⁹ William Mackenzie was the brother of Janet Mackenzie, who married Donald Gunn of Tormsdale. Janet was Alexander Gunn's mother.

¹⁹⁰ One of Alexander's brothers was Donald whose descendants include **Sir John Gunn of Tormsdale** 1837 - 1918 who was much involved with the Welsh shipping industry. His daughter Winifred married Francis Brodie Lodge who was a manufacturer and inventor of spark plugs as well as being a major collector of Chinese ceramics and bronzes.

¹⁹¹ Census 30 March 1851: County of Caithness, Parish of Reay. Residents at Brawlbin. Donald Gunn head, unmarried 19, farmer, 16 acres, born Halkirk; Katherine Gunn sister, unmarried 20, general service, born Reay; Janet Gunn sister, unmarried 17, scholar, born Reay; John Gunn brother, unmarried 15, scholar born Reay; William Gunn brother, unmarried 12, scholar born Reay.

Assorted letters / bills / documents relating to Donald Gunn in Scotland 1848 – 1854

One has to note Donald's home life; his grandfather Donald of Tormsdale (262) died circa 1844, we do not know the death date for his grandmother Janet (703) but his father Alexander in Bualchork and Brawlbin (1) died in 1847 at Brawlbin and his mother Barbara Gunn (6) had predeceased her husband, dying in 1844. This left Donald being the man of the family (and certainly 'head' according to the 1841 census) when only 15/16, although his grandfather on his Mother's side—Donald the Sennachie—was alive, he was 77, and so may have provided advice but unlikely to be doing hard labour. His older sister Catherine would have been about 17. How did he—and the rest of the family—cope? They certainly continued with their tenant farm but it must have been a mighty effort.

The bills continue but are now in Donald Gunn's name although he is still 'Junior', perhaps in deference to his grandfather or perhaps merely a reflection of his youth—

Brawlbin January 13 1848
received from M^r. Donald Gunn Junior
Brawlbin the sum of one pound
seventeen Shillings & being the full
amount he was due me up to this date
Donald Mepheron

January 13 1848 receipt for £1/17/0 written at Brawlbin.

Thurso, 19th Feb 1848
£2
RECEIVED from *Donald Gunn Brawlbin*
the sum of *Two* Pounds, — Shillings, — Pence,
Sterling, being *part* payment of Account. *W. McDonald*

19th February 1848 receipt for £2 being part payment to McDonald of Thurso.

Calder 5th March 1848. Recd from Mr Don Hamilton
 Bual Brawlin one Pound nine Shillings & 8^p which
 is placed to his credit Don Hamilton
 Angus Keith was due of the above sum 4/11

5th March 1848 receipt from Calder but owed to Don Hamilton. Angus Keith was due part of the sum. An Angus Keith was in Alexander's household in the 1841 census, aged 30, as a male servant. It is possible that the above applied to him.

Mr Donald Quinn
 To Robt Sinclair
 for school fees
 Two Boys for 1 1/2 yrs at 8d
 at 8d = 12d = 1s
 1 Boy at 8d at 1/6 = 2s 3
 £0 8 3
 Sir I shall feel favoured
 by your remitting me the
 above on receipt of this
 yours truly Robt Sinclair
 Brawlin 14 1848

Mr Donald Quinn
 Junior
 Brawlin

The above is a fascinating bill from Robt Sinclair for school fees for three children being in total for the sum of 8/3d. One assumes the teacher had not previously pressed the account as Donald's father had died in 1847. What is interesting here is that it is for two boys for one and a half years; and one boy for a shorter time. Presumably the two full time students were Donald's younger brothers—John (12) and William (220)—and the student who finished early may well have been Donald. As head of the family there would have been more important matters to attend to than school, such as earning some money. Janet (120) and Catherine (119), being female, were less likely to be formally educated.

June 15 1848 - Received from Sir
 of the late Glasgow in Glasgow Bank
 credit to my Rent account for an
 order from Mr. Sutherland of £100 for the
 Rent of the house and for the Purchase of
 interest for the period of 8 -
Wm. Hamilton

An 1848 tenancy account.

Calder 18th Dec 1848 Recd from Mr. Sir Cum
 Bual Broulins eighteen Shillings, 4^d being full
 payment of this acct till this date
Don Hamilton

A further account from Don Hamilton in Calder is dated 18th December 1848.

Reay, January 1, 1849.

No. 56-


To *Mr. Donald Gunn Simon, Braathen*

TAKE NOTICE that, by a Meeting of the PAROCHIAL BOARD of REAY, held on the Second day of November, 1848, an ASSESSMENT of Eight $\frac{3}{4}$ Cent. on the present Rental was imposed,—one half payable, in terms of the 34th Sec. of the Act, by the Owners,—the other half by the Tenants or Occupants of all Lands and Heritages within the Parish, of the yearly Rent or value of Two Pounds Sterling and upwards, for the Half-year from Martinmas, 1848, to Whitsunday, 1849, for RELIEF of the POOR of said PARISH of REAY;—and in terms thereof, you are ASSESSED in the Sum undernoted,—and the same is payable to the Collector, at the School-House of Reay, precisely, on Wednesday, the Seventh of February, 1849.

As Proprietor, on a Rental of £	£	
As Tenant or Occupant, on a Rental of £ 16 —	£ —	<i>6/4 1/2</i>
		£	

James McLaren, Collector.

N.B.—The Parochial Board will sit at Reay, on Tuesday, the Sixth day of February next, from Twelve o'clock noon to Three o'clock afternoon, for the purpose of HEARING OBJECTIONS, if any, to your Assessment,—after which no Objections will be received.

 Please bring this Notice to the Collector, at Payment.

The official notice from Reay January 1, 1849 for poor relief; so the tenancy had passed to Donald. He had taken on the responsibility of family head.

Mr. Donald Gunn farmer Braathen

1851 *To Donald Munro Wright Thurso*

March 1 72 old fillbes & a board & putty	" - 1 6
April 6 a pair of cart wheels & a new reek 1/4	2 - 1 4
	£ 2 - 3 - 3

By Cash in full

Donald Munro

An 1851 bill from Donald Munro Wright in Thurso.

Mr Donald Gunn Brawlbin
 To Donald Munro Wright Thurso
 June 15 a Catto trunk green wood " 18 "
 a lock & hinges on a trunk a pair handles " 2 "
 30 a new bunk scatch wood " 18 "
 £ 1 10 "
 Settled in full
 Donald Munro

A further, but undated, bill from Donald Munro Wright in Thurso.

Life, though, was not all comfortable; someone at Brawlbin had been quite severely ill in 1852. There is a bill from James Mill(?) 'surgeon Thurso' dated March 19 1852 which was for 'advice and prescribing for you from 16 January' and was for 7/6d and the cost of the medicine was 8/1d. This fairly considerable bill was settled on 24 Feb 1854.

Mr Donald Gunn, Junr. Brawlbin.
 To James Mill, Surgeon, Thurso.
 1852
 March 19. Advice & prescribing for you from 16 January £ 7. 6
 Amount of medicine " 8. 1
 £ 15. 7
 24 Feb 1854 Settled James Mill
 They to hand you the above as I render my
 accounts at this season - You can settle it when
 convenient -
 You recd To
 James Mill


It raises questions about problems of health in the Highlands and may provide some explanation as to motivation for emigration. Donald at this stage is described (although still 'Junior') as 'farmer, Brawlbin' on the outer of the bill.

Mr. Donald Gunn Junr.
Finner
Br. & Co.

This is in contrast with the next bill - one dated May 23 1853 and made out to Donald by a John Gunn. John was owed £2/1/3 for four and a half gallons of 'aqua' (presumably not water but whisky) and six bottles of porter and Donald paid on the 27th. The bill was written in Thurso.

Thurso 27th May. 1853
Mr. Donald Gunn
To John Gunn
May 23. To 4½ Gal Aqua @ 8/6 £1. 18 3
6 Bottles Porter @ 6 " 3 -
£ 2. 1. 3
By Cash £ 2. 1. 3
May 27 } John Gunn
1853 }

The excise certificate relating to this transaction is perhaps the following—

 EXCISE OFFICE

No. **T80563** **EXCISE CERTIFICATE**
for the removal of
Duty-paid Spirits.)

From John Gunn
Of Mussel
Gallons Three as under.
To Donald Gunn
Of Bracollin Parish Halkirk
Sent out 21 day of May 1853 at 12 o'clock.
Conveyance boat

No. of Casks or Packages.	Gallons.	Quality.	Strength.
<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>P.S.</u>	<u>Mussel</u>

Received _____ day of _____ 18____ at _____ o'clock.

It seems an impressive amount for one young family...

Another account exists from Donald McPherson which was begun on September 15 1851 and ran till June 29 1853. This bill includes debts from Donald, William, Katherine and John. Donald paid £2 of the £4/11/7d owing. Again, Donald was paying debts accrued on behalf of the whole family; one assumes as the main adult he was responsible for these debts (presumably all goods bought were for the good of the family). Donald though did not pay it all off at one go; on June 29 1853 he paid £2 leaving a balance of £2 11/ 7d to pay.

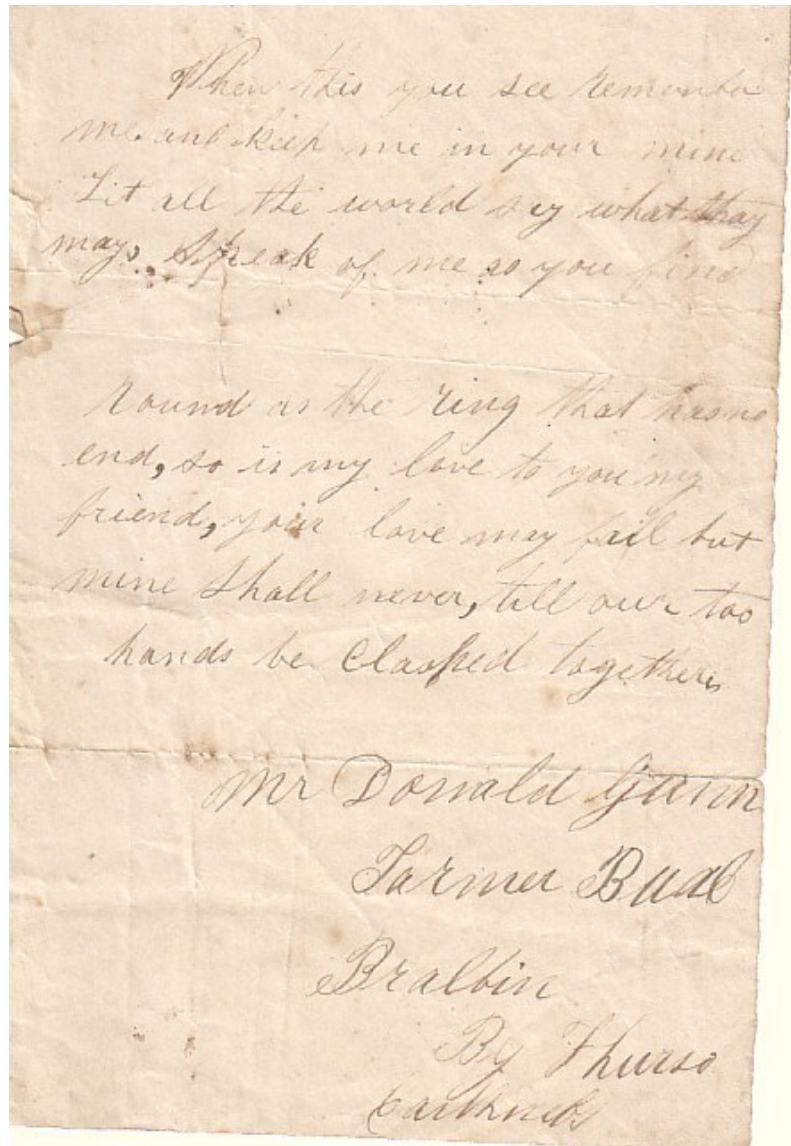
1851
 Sept 15 To Sundries — 72 £ 0 2 1
 Nov 30 for Katherine 72 — 8 4
 Dec 23 for John 73 — 9 3
 Jan 9 for David 73 = 8 4
 March 22 for Katherine 75 — 6 4
 June 5 for John 77 — 8 4
 Aug 3 for William 77 = 8 11
 Oct 25 for David 78 — — 8
 Oct 6 for David 79 — — 9
 for Katherine 79 — —
 Dec 30 for John 80 = 1 4 8
 Feb 4 — — 80 — — 1 8
 1853: 3 May for David 81 = — — 0
 June 25 for John 82 = 2
 By Cash 4 11 7
 June 29th 1853 Received from David & John
 Junior & Katherine the sum of Two Pounds
 Sterg leaving a balance of 2 £ 11 7d
 to this Date Donald McPherson

What is one to make of the following document?

*When this you see remember
me, and keep me in your mind.
Let all the world say what they
may, Speak of me as you find*

*Round as the ring that has no
end, so is my love to you my
friend, your love may fail but
mine shall never, till our too
hands be clasped together,*

*Mr Donald Gunn
Farmer Bual
Bralbin
By Thurso
Caithness*



*When this you see remember
me, and keep me in your mind.
Let all the world say what they
may, Speak of me as you find*

*Round as the ring that has no
end, so is my love to you my
friend, your love may fail but
mine shall never, till our too
hands be clasped together,*

*Mr Donald Gunn
Farmer Bual
Bralbin
By Thurso
Caithness*

Donald clearly had a sweetheart who wrote the poem; obviously Donald did not write it otherwise the address would not be required. It is a complete message so it is sent to reflect the feeling of the sender.

Who was the sender? Is the third last line an indication of Donald's rejection? Was it perhaps an indication reflecting why he may leave Scotland? But keeping of this poem until his death suggests he may have reluctantly left her.

Donald had made up his mind to emigrate and it's not surprising given the Scottish mood of the time and the circumstances in which the family was in. A letter to him reads:

Edinburgh April 25th 1853

My Dear friend,

I received your receipts from which I am glad to learn that you are enjoying good health further I learn that you have made up your mind fully for emigrating which I expect that you will find it to equal your most sanguine expectations for you will have 100 chances there of doing well to every one in Scotland. Their has come some very uncuriging letters here of late but principally from the part of the community that can neither work nor wants and one may rely that it is a failing with human nature that one will not speak well of a place where they do not succeed well. I would not hesitate one day about going were it not on my mother's account for in my own line at present the trade is uncommonly brisk and workman not to be got at any money.

In accordance to your request I have been enquiring after Government emigration but I have been informed that their is none for Scotland at the present time Their has a company started here of late to take in 2000 deposits at 10/6d each to be allotted to 80 20 being sent out free and 60 assisted their is a good many that hesitaten in sacrificising their money for their is only 80 chances out of the 2000 but still their is a good many that has suscribed already

In regard to Murdoch Campbells enquiry about the egg trade I do not think that he would be much the gainer by sending them here at present for the provision merchants are retailing them at 6d per dozen only had he opened a correspondence here in the beginning of winter he would have done very well for at the chrismas many they were buying them in at 2/- per dozen and could not get as many as they required at that. I have nothing important to communicate at present only I hope to be favoured with a note from your hand as soon as convenient meantime I remain yours faithfully

William McPherson

To Mr D Gunn

Edinburgh April ²⁵ 1858
My Dear friend

I received your
receipt from which I am
glad to learn that you are
enjoying good health further
I learn that you have made up
your mind fully for emigrating
which I expect that you will
find it to equal your most
 sanguine expectations for you
will have 100 chances there of
doing well to every one in
peckland. There has come some
very unencouraging letters here
of late but principally from
that part of the community that
can neither work nor wait.

and one may rely that is is a
feeling with human nature
that one will not speak well
of a place where they do not suc-
ceed well. I would not hes-
itate one day about going were
it not on my brother's account
for in my own line at presents
the trade is uncommonly brisk
and workmen not to be got at
any money

In accordance to your request I
have been enquiring after Govern-
ment Emigration but I have
been informed that there is none
for Scotland at the present time
There has a company started here of
late to seek in good deposits at

10/6 each to be allotted to 80
as being sent out free and 60
assorted. Their is a good many
that hesitate in sacrificing
their money for their is only 80
chances out of the 2000 but
still their is a good many that
has subscribed already.
In regard to Murdock Campbell
enquiry about the egg trade I
do not think that he would be
much the gainer by sending
them here at present for the
Provision merchants are retailing
them at 6^{cts} per dozen only had
he opened a correspondence here
in the beginning of winter
he would have done very well

for at the chusmas mree they
were buying them in at 2/ per
dozen and could not get as
many as they required at that
I have nothing important to com-
municate at present only I hope
to be favoured with a note from
your hands as soon as convenient
meantime I remain yours
faithfully
J. M. D. Gurn
William Joseph

Donald has very clearly made up his mind to leave.

The next two documents that exist—in chronological order—are from the 'Colonial Land and Emigration Office, Park Street, Westminster.' They provide an insight into the distinct bureaucratic mind of the time:

XXVI

Preliminary form 24 May 1853
25412

Donald Gunn

I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the

6th -----? and in reply, to enclose a preliminary form to be filled up by persons wishing to ascertain whether they are likely to be put on the List of Candidates for a Passage, before going to the trouble and expense of filling up the regular Form of Application.

It is to be distinctly understood, that if the regular form be afterwards issued, the Commissioners do not thereby in any way pledge themselves to accept the Applicants, although eligible, who must not therefore leave their employment, or make any preparation for departure, unless called on by the Secretary to pay the deposit required by the regulations.

I am
Your obedient Servant

John Gliddon (?)
per Secretary

XXVI.

Preliminary Form.

257412

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,

Park Street, Westminster,

24 May 1853.

Donald Gunn

I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 6th Inst and in reply, to enclose a Preliminary Form to be filled up by persons wishing to ascertain whether they are likely to be put on the List of Candidates for a Passage, before going to the trouble and expense of filling up the regular Form of Application.

It is to be distinctly understood, that if the regular Form be afterwards issued, the Commissioners do not thereby in any way pledge themselves to accept the Applicants, although eligible, who must not therefore leave their employment, or make any preparation for departure, unless called on by the Secretary to pay the deposit required by the regulations.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Bravo! bin
by Thence

M. J. Liddell
per Secretary.

Donald was not to have success this way.

The next letter from the same office was 30 June 1853. (Around this time John—Donald's younger brother—was emigrating.) It says:

IV

Donald Gunn

With reference to your application for a Passage to Australia, I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to state that they regret that they are unable to meet your wishes, as more than the due proportion of persons having already been selected from Scotland in the present Emigration, the Commissioners can only now take from that part of the United Kingdom Single Women, being Farm and Domestic Servants, and families of which at least two-thirds are females.

I am

Your obedient Servant

John Gliddon (?)

per Secretary

The official assisted passage seems to not have worked. Presumably Donald was to pay his own way.

IV.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,

8, Park Street, Westminster,

30 June 1853.

32234

Donald Gunn

With reference to your application for a Passage
to Australia, I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration
Commissioners to state that they regret that they are unable to meet
your wishes, as more than the due proportion of persons having
already been selected from ^{Scotland} ~~Ireland~~ in the present Emigration, the
Commissioners can only now take from that part of the United
Kingdom Single Women, being Farm and Domestic Servants, and
Families of which at least two-thirds are Females.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Wm. H. H. H.
per Secretary.

Wm. H. H.
Thurso

Working out methods of emigration though was not his sole concern—extended family life was to continue. This letter is, presumably, to Donald as it is held by his family. What is annoying is an inability to pin all the people down on the family tree; where known ID numbers have been inserted—

Edinburgh 5th october 1853

Dear Friend

I reseived your letter on the 3 instinent which I was glad to understand that you was in good health at the time Dear Friend I am to tell you som of Margret Sinclair tale conserning your aunt Margaret (880) + your uncel Alex (572) I hope you will be cind enough to ask your aunt whither they were in good terms ore not when She left Caithness hir language was discreasful to be heard concerning both of your Aunts but I hope you you will be kind enougug to write me and tell me some things concerning there corespondance + then I will tell you in my next letter hir language Dear Sir I am to tell you of hir career in this world She is in Daniel Gunns house since a Months She left Rodric Mcdonald + she is at law with him at present I do not know what is she to do, she is in a bad state at present but still she cannot keep hir Long I did not speak a word to hir Since long I would be very sorry to let eny of their names to be taken in vane so I + hir hir had a black day Dear Friend, I am to apply for the County Police as the Superintendent is living on my Beat. So I am sure to get on bu if our wages will get up as we ar thinking I will be as good where I am Dear sir be sure + write me as soon as this comes to your hand and tell me what your aunt says concerning Margret Sinclair as I think whin I was at home thay were in good terms but still you will ask hir what was between them indeed I was not well pleased at hir language + tell me who is comming on the coast at present is John McKay (3467) comming yet ore cuming Dear friend give my best respict to your aunt Margret + to your sister Jinat¹⁹² + to your Brother tell me is he in Thurso as yet Dear Friend Iam to go to Dundee the first cheap excursion I had a letter telling that your aunt had a young son I wonder much that you never told me of your aunts Death I had ben Drinking with William Mcpherson last Sunday + he was telling me that he had a letter from you at your arrival at orkney be sure + write me as soon as this comes to your hand I remain yours faithfull

Robert Gunn

No2 Ashley Buildings
Edinburgh

¹⁹²Janet 'MacLeod' Gunn (120)

Edinburgh th 5 October
1853

Dear Friend I received
your letter on the
3 instant which I was glae to under-
stand that you was in good health
at the time Dear Friend
I am to tell you som of
Margret Sinclair take concerning
your aunt Margret & your
uncle Alex I hope you will
be kind enough to ask your aunt
whether they were in good terms
or not when ~~she~~ she left
Cathness hir language
was discreasful to be heard
concerning both of your
aunts but I hope you

You will be kind enough to write
me and tell me some things
concerning these correspondance
& then I will tell you in ^{my} ~~your~~
next letter, his language Dear +
Sir I am to tell you of his
~~long~~ career in this world
She is in Daniel Gurno house
since a Months She left Pedro
Medonato & she is at law with
him at present I do not know
what is she to do, she is
in a bad state at present but
still she cannot keep his Long
I did not speak a word to him
since long I would be very
sorry to let any of their
names to be taken in vain
so I & his his had a black
clay

Dear Friend I am to aply^R
for the County Police as
the Superintendent is living
on my Beat. so I am sure
to get on but if our wages
will get up as we are thinking
I will be as good where I am.
Dear Sir be sure I write
me as soon as this comes
to your hand and tell me what
your aunt says concerning Margre^t
Sinclair as I think when I was
at home they were in good terms
but still you will ask him what
was between them. indeed I was
not well pleased at his language.
telle me who is coming on the
coast at present is John
McKay coming yet or coming.
Dear friend give my best respect
to your aunt Margaret & to your

sister Lenat & to your Brother
tell me is he in Thurso as yet
Dear Friend I am to go to Dundee
the first cheap excursion I had on
letter telling that your
aunt had a young son
I wonder much that you
never told me of your
aunts Death I had her
Drinking with William
Mcpherson last Sunday
& he was telling me that
he had a letter from you
at your arrival at Arberny
be sure & write me as
soon as this comes to your
hand I remain yours
faithfull Robert G. W.
No. 2 Ashby Buildings
Glasgow

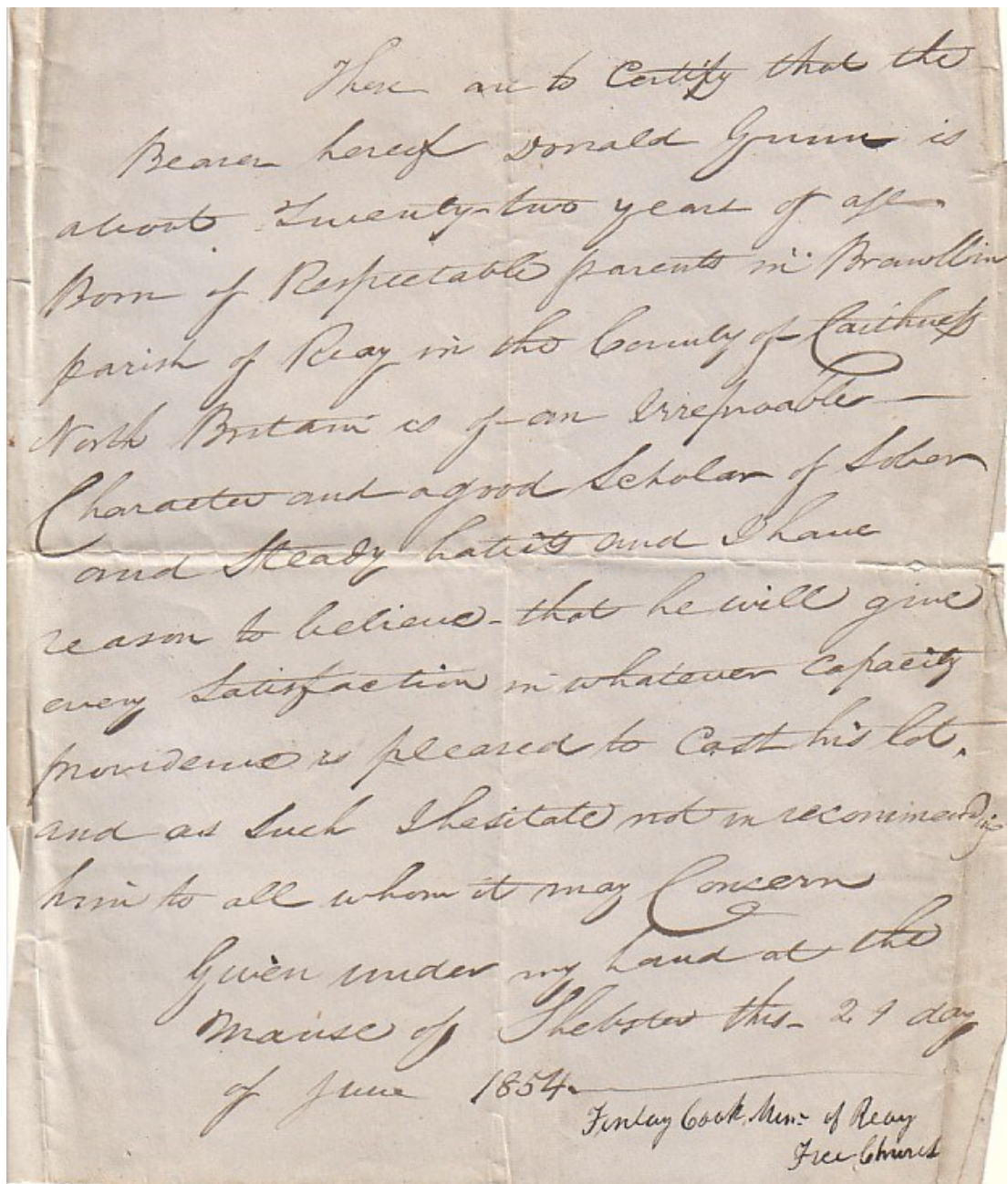
The recipient, presumably Donald, had been to the Orkneys and family fighting was occurring at this time. It did not, though, deter Donald from his emigration plans; it may, in fact, have encouraged him.

Donald was planning to leave and his brother John's emigration may have helped. Donald was getting his certificates of character organized—

This is to certify that the Bearer hereof Donald Gunn is about twenty-two years of age Born of Respectable parents in Brawlbin parish of Reay in the County of Caithness North Britain is of an irreproachable Character and a good Scholar of Sober and Steady habits and I have reason to believe that he will give every Satisfaction in whatever capacity providence is pleased to cast his lot and as such I hesitate not in recommending him to all whom it may Concern

Given under my hand at the Manse of Shebster this 29 day of June 1854

Finlay Cook Min^r of Reay Free Church



*This is to Certify that the
Bearer hereof Donald Gunn is
about Twenty-two years of age
Born of Respectable parents in Brawlbin
parish of Reay in the County of Caithness
North Britain is of an irreproachable
Character and a good Scholar of Sober
and Steady habits and I have
reason to believe that he will give
every Satisfaction in whatever Capacity
providence is pleased to cast his lot,
and as such I hesitate not in recommending
him to all whom it may Concern
Given under my hand at the
Manse of Shebster this 29 day
of June 1854.
Finlay Cook Min^r of Reay
Free Church*

and a second exists—

Thurso 3 July 1854

A Rudge Esq

My Dear Sir

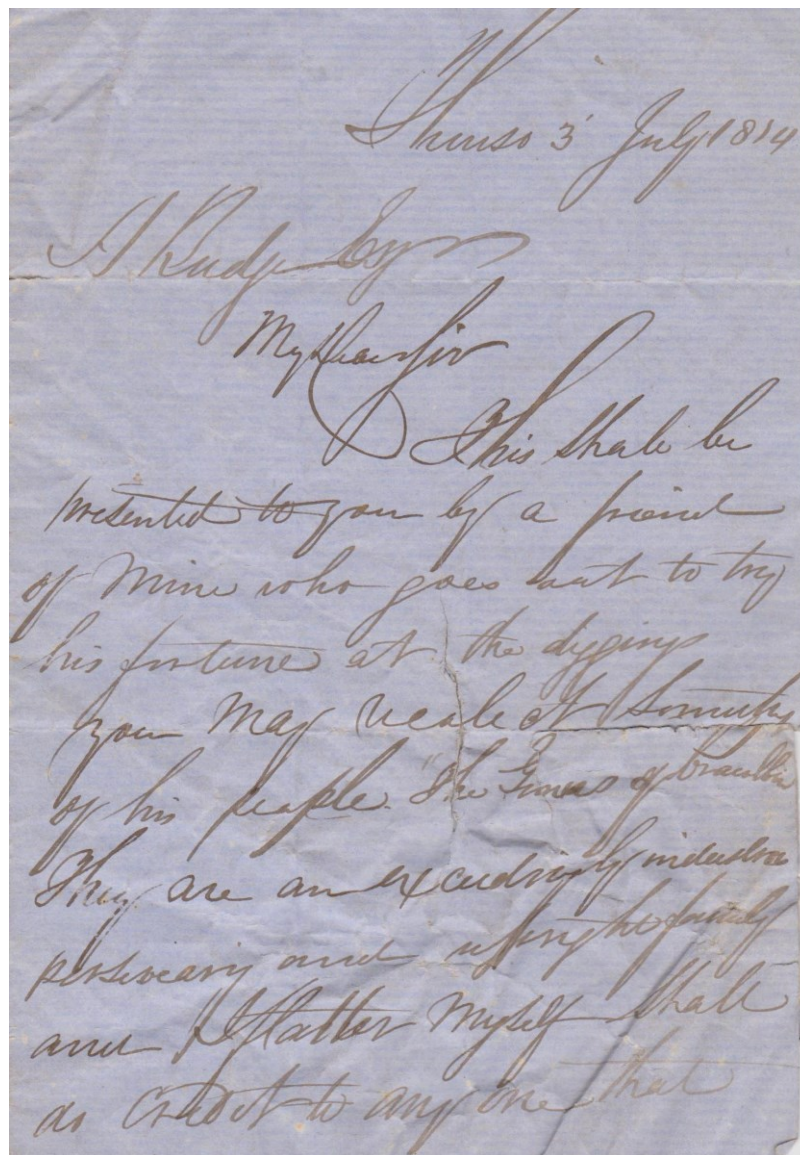
This shall be presented to you by a friend of mine who goes out to try his fortunes at the diggings¹⁹³ you may recall (?) of something (?) of his people "the Gunns of brawlbin They are an exceedingly industrious persevearing and ----- family and ----- myself shall as credit anyone that may befriend them

From our acquaintance in the days of "Lang Syne" I have presumed to give him this note of introduction wellknowing your kindness and good feeling for all Caithness people with best wishes I am

My Dear Sir

Yours very Truly

D Campbell



Thurso 3 July 1854

A Rudge Esq

My Dear Sir

This shall be
presented to you by a friend
of mine who goes out to try
his fortune at the diggings
you may recall of something
of his people the Gunns of Brawlbin
They are an exceedingly industrious
persevearing and upright family
and I flatter myself shall
as credit to anyone that

¹⁹³This alludes to the gold mines / gold rush of Victoria at this time.

May be found them
I am an acquaintance
in the days of "Long Syne" I
have presumed to give them
this note of introduction
well knowing your kindness and
good feeling for the
Catholic people with
best wishes I am
Yr friend
Donald Mac
Donald

After some years of trying Donald is obviously ready to go.

1. Emigration 1853 - 1854

Donald decided to emigrate to Australia by April 1853. He received a preliminary form from the 'Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners' and tried to be put on the List of Candidates for a Passage. This did not work – the rejection of the official passage was sent to him on 30 June 1853. Other letters exist to Donald from October 1853¹⁹⁴ detailing assorted extended family squabbles, these may have increased his desire to emigrate.

Emigration was certainly not unknown from the Highlands; Jamaica has already been discussed. As well, Donald's uncle Marcus Gunn emigrated to Sydenham, Owen Sound, Canada around September 1842. He married Barbara Mackay. His aunt Christian Gunn also emigrated to Canada with her husband Alexander Sutherland a few years later. Marcus and Christian lived close to each other and descendants exist for both siblings.

Donald continued to work towards emigration and was given a character reference by Finlay Cook the Minister of the Reay Free Church on 29 June 1854 and a second character reference was given by D. Campbell of Thurso on 3 July 1854. In it he says Donald was going 'to try his fortune at the diggings' so Donald, at least in public, had given his reason for emigrating to Australia. The Victorian gold rush which started in 1851 meant migration to there had become a much more visible option than to Canada in the 1850s - the impact was that in the 1850s some 90,000 Scots migrated to Australia.¹⁹⁵

There is one love poem addressed to Donald at 'Bralbin' saying he had fallen out of love with the girl poet – but Donald kept the poem. Did he break off the relationship as he knew he was going to emigrate? Had he really retained a soft spot for her?

The main reason for Donald's migration was probably the need to accompany his sister. Catherine had been the childhood sweetheart of James Miller¹⁹⁶ of Wick who had worked on various ships between Van Diemen's Land (now Tasmania) and Norfolk Island in the late 1840s and early 1850s. He settled in Melbourne in June 1851, spent a year or so on the Ballarat goldfields and then moved to Geelong and established a coal yard and ship's chandlery on the proceeds from his time on the fields. He had mined about sixty ounces of gold for which he received about £4 an ounce. So that's £240; the average working man's wage in 1852¹⁹⁷ was about £100. In 1854 James sent for Catherine.

Donald and Catherine emigrated on 21 Aug 1854 from Liverpool, Merseyside, on the 'Herald of the Morning' which anchored off Melbourne on the 23rd of December 1854, presumably disembarkation occurred soon thereafter.¹⁹⁸ Given Donald had tried to be an assisted migrant but failed it is probable that James Miller sponsored / paid for the migration, especially as no further family papers / forms exist from the Emigration Commissioners.

¹⁹⁴ It seems Donald had been to the Orkney Islands sometime in that year, being implied in a letter held by the author.

¹⁹⁵ Page 73, A. Inglis and P. T. Macdonald, *For Auld Lang Syne; Images of Scottish Australia from the First Fleet to Federation*

¹⁹⁶ Information derived from *The James Miller Story*, a company history. James Miller expanded from running his Geelong businesses into creating a massive ropemaking business in Emerald Hill, Melbourne in 1862, called 'Miller's Ropes.' In 1962 it was still operating, still family run and was Australia's largest manufacturer of rope, cordage and associated products.

¹⁹⁷ See <https://www.sbs.com.au/gold/story.php?storyid=66> accessed 12 November 2020.

¹⁹⁸ The passenger list for the 'Herald of the Morning' records the only Donald Gunn of the approximate age to arrive between late 1854 and early 1856. It reads - John Raps(?), 22; Walter Williamson, 20; John Sutherland, 19; Hugh Murray, 22; Donald Gunn, 27; Barbara Gunn, 29 and Hugh Matheson, 36, all berthed together. William Watkins Gunn – the second son of Donald Gunn and Jane Surman – has written that Donald and Catherine travelled together. It is unclear why Catherine travelled under her mother's name.

James and Catherine were married on 12 March 1857 at Buninyong, Victoria, where Donald then lived. They had six children. Catherine was a servant and resident at Geelong at the time of her marriage.

Donald's younger brother John had earlier emigrated to Australia and arrived around October 1853 when he was aged about seventeen. He died at Rosehill, Moonee Ponds, Melbourne on 10 January 1855. The family story is that John died from sunstroke caught whilst waiting for Donald and Catherine's boat to dock. John wrote an account of his voyage to Australia which probably was similar for Donald and Catherine. John's account is

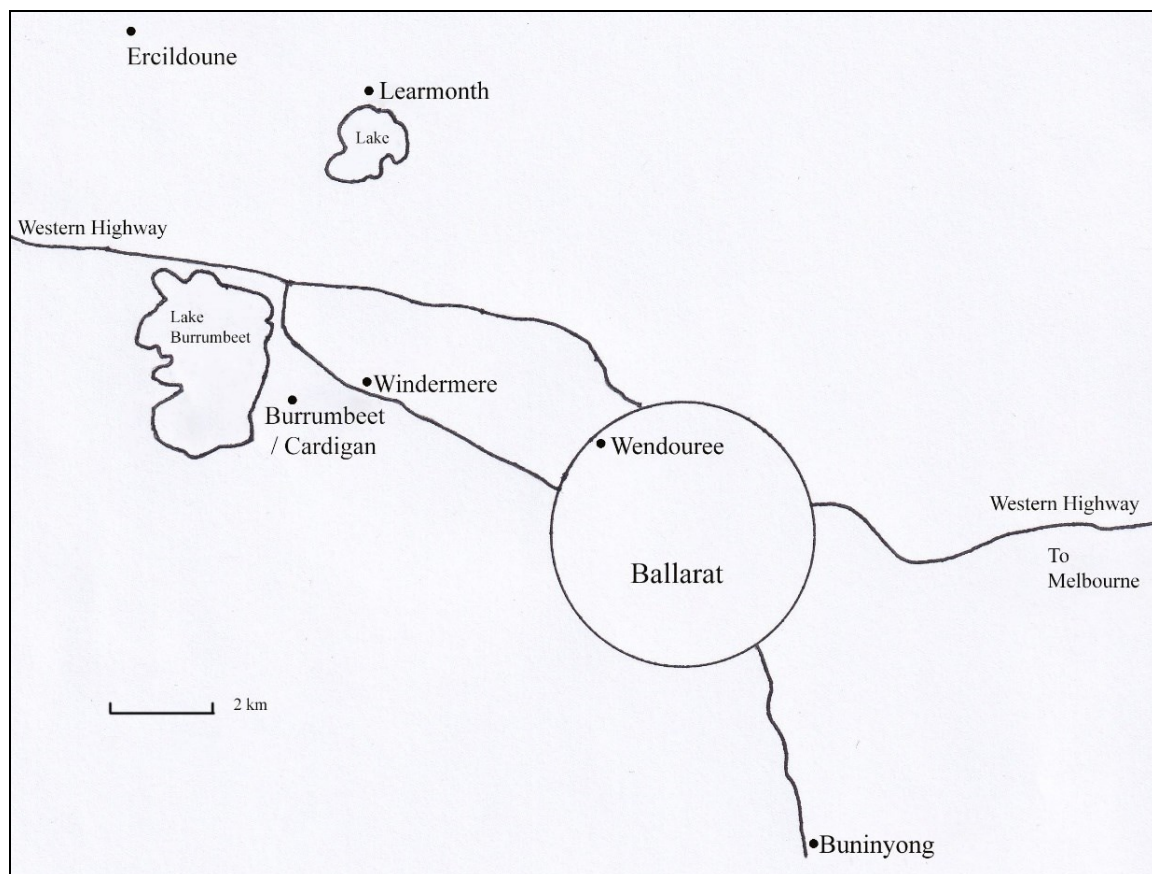
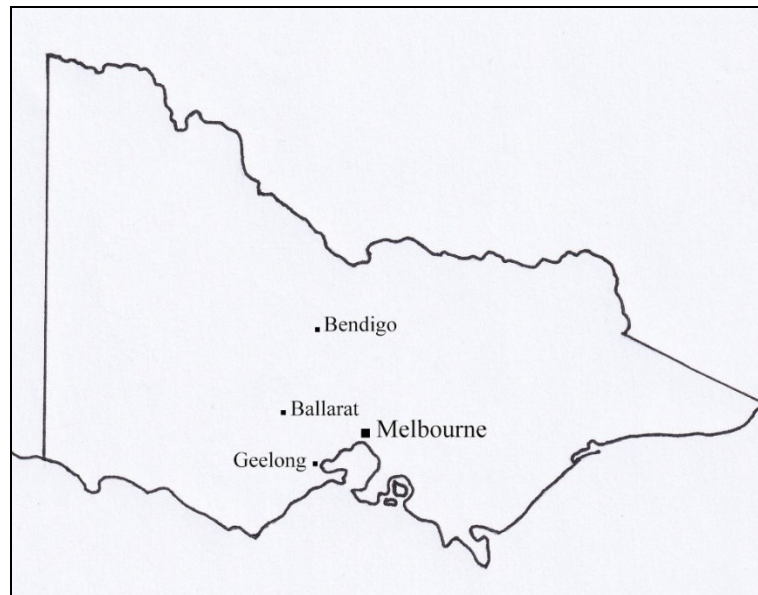
Monday July 11th Took steamer from Scrabster Roads to Glasgow and arrived there on Wednesday the 13th about 7 in the afternoon. I remained in Glasgow till 6 o'clock P.M. on Saturday when I took a steamer to Liverpool and arrived there about 8 o'clock P.M. on Sunday. Remained on shore until Thursday following when I embarked on Board the ship Tasmania which was then hauled out of the Docks and lying in the River Mersey. The ship lay here again until Wednesday the 27th July when she weighed anchor and was tugged out of the Harbour by two steam boats the last of which left the following morning at Holy-Head when we were left to beat up the English Channell - it was a fine day + we were in high spirits. On the 29th it commenced to blow right ahead and a great many of the Passengers sea sick I myself was very sick for some days. For the four following days we were beating up the English channel the wind always blowing ahead until on Tuesday the 2nd Aug^t when we neared the Bay of Biscay and it fell calm and continued so all day but on the 3rd a smart breeze sprung up which carried us along at a beautiful rate and from this to the 9th we had splendid weather and all passengers were again well. there are a great many Highland people on Board and we had Music and Dancing every good evening in which I joined considering it best for the health to take a little exercise. On Tuesday the 9th the wind shifted a little ahead of us. Today we saw the Island of Porto Santo which belongs to the Portuguese. It is a wild (mild?) looking spot we saw two small boats as if they were fishing between us and the shore. 10th and 11th Very calm and doing little progress. On the 12 we came in sight of the Island of Medeira and passed about 8 miles to the east of it. 13 we had little wind but on Sunday the 14th we had a breeze. There were a great many fishes seen today and although it was Sunday the sailors and Passengers some of which I am sorry to say were Scotch tried with hook and spear to catch some. They did catch five of them and immediately gutted and Boiled and ate them. They were called Albacors and weighed about 30^{lbs} each. However I did not touch them. On Monday the 15th we had a nice Breeze of Fair Wind nothing between 9 and 10 knots an hour. Passed the barque Jane of Aberdeen bound for Melbourne in Lat 31 N. On 16th the splendid screw steam ship Sidney passed us. She sailed from London on the 4th Aug^t and was bound for Sidney and passed steaming under a cloud of Canvas about 3 O'Clock in the afternoon. On Wednesday the 17th we entered the Tropics about 11 O'Clock am. It is now getting very warm. 17th and 18th. Good Breeze of fair wind several ships in Company but we left them all in a short time. 19th. Very Calm and at night it was the most beautiful sight I ever saw there was several ships in view and the sea was as smooth as glass. Saturday the 20th. Steward was today put in irons in consequence of his refusing to execute certain orders of the Commander. On the 21st, 22nd + 23rd we had fair wind and going very well. On the 24th it rained heavily for the first time since we left Liverpool and the passengers were eagerly engaged in catching as much of it as they could for washing with it. A child died today of the measles and committed to a watery grave about 4 O'Clock in the afternoon by the Carpenter after a funeral sermon was read by the surgeon. Immediately afterwards the passengers sang a hymn. On the 25th it was very blowy with some flashes of Lightning in the evening. It is now very warm + I can scarcely sleep in my berth with my clothes at all on me. We walk the Deck with nothing but our trowsers and shirt on and still it is very oppressing the heat. I can scarcely bear to put my naked hand on any article exposed to the sun about 12 noon. The sun is now over our heads. Friday the 26th. Very calm with some showers of rain. 27th High winds

not at all favourable. On the 28th, 29th, 30th we had very good weather but the heat very great and suffering a great deal from thirst the water very bad and not drinkable without vinegar or something to take away the taste and smell. We are all divided in 6 messes + take a day about in cleaning the berths and cooking for each mess. On Wednesday the 31st we were all ordered by the Captain on Deck from 10 to 12 noon to allow the 'tween Decks' to be aired. 1st 2nd + 3rd very varyarorable weather but on the 4th we fell in with the Trade winds which are favorable. Monday 5th September. Splendid breeze going 10 + eleven knots an hour. Tuesday 6th. Blowing very strong but wind very favorable going at the rate of 14 Knots an hour and continued this way for some days but on the 12th we were obliged to go under double reefed top sails. I should have observed that that we crossed the line on the 3rd and the event was celebrated by the usual custom of shaving among the crew and passengers. 13th 14th and 15th Weather milder though the swell of the sea and the rocking of the ship made it almost impossible to walk the Decks. 16th Good weather and going well the weather is now getting colder. 17th Still good weather. 18th It commenced to blow against us and continued so for two days a tremendous quantity of sea fowl observed such as Cape Pidgeons and Albatrosses some of the latter measure from wing to wing the length of from 8 to ten feet. On the 20th we passed the Cape of Good Hope at a distance of 800 miles from it to the south. From this to the 1st of October we have very changeable and rough weather which made it very difficult to write. On the 2nd October the wind changed in our favour and we run by log the great distance of 340 miles in 24 hours but shipped several seas which washed all the decks. 3rd + 4th Very heavy sea with strong wind. Lost our main top stansail. Wednesday 5th Our miser (?) top Gallant yard gave way and broke through the middle. The carpenters were immediately engaged in making a new one and were helped by some Carpenters and Joiners on Board. Thursday 6th Heavy sea, ship labouring much shipping heavy seas. We got our yard rigged early in the morning but about 12 noon a sea struck the ship lurching her in such a manner as to break her miser mast into three pieces + Down came itself yards and sails bringing down with it in its course our Maintop gallant and Royal yards. Nothing could exceed our Consternation + surprise when we saw our ship so suddenly disabled. All hands were immediately engaged in clearing the deck and the carpenters got such help from the Passengers that the ship was soon put to rights. 7th 8 9 + 10th Got fair wind and going very well 11th Blowing rather strong. 12th Saw a ship bound to Melbourne with Passengers 115 days out we soon left sight of her she sailed from London. 13th and 14th Fair wind + going well. 15th Passengers today collected a subscription among them for to present the Captain on their arrival at Melbourne with some token of their respect. 16th Wind rather contrary but still on the right course. 17th + 18th Fair wind. 19 + 20 Fair wind and drawing near land. 21st This morning early the news was that the land was in sight and everybody was on Deck. 22nd Coasting along the Australian shore. 23rd Early this morning came in sight of Port Phillip Light House. We then got a Pilot and sailed up the straits for Melbourne where we arrived and cast Anchor three miles from the town at 2 O'Clock in the afternoon. The Custom House Officers came immediately on Board with the Inspector. We lay at Anchor here all night and next morning and this morning Tuesday the 25th there was steam boats come to fetch us ashore. Melbourne is a strange Place. Two men was hanged yesterday and other two are to be hanged today. Wages is very good yet. I did not get any job yet but I expect to get one soon. This is now a sketch of the Passage and I hasten to inform you of my safe arrival Dear Uncle. There was no sickness on Board but 7 children died of the measles +^c and we had three Births. We arrived 2 hours after the Gildfinder (?) who sailed from Liverpool 5 days before us. M^cWilliamson's (?) little Neil died also on the voyage. I will write you again soon with all the news.

I am My Dear Uncle, your affec^d nephew, John Gunn 25th Oct 1853

I was not a day sick since I left home but a little sea sick at first. Passage 88 days.

2.1. Buninyong, Victoria, Australia



The Ballarat region of Victoria.

It is not clear what Donald did after his arrival in Victoria in late December 1854 but his acquisition of an abattoir on leased land by late 1857 at Buninyong, near Ballarat, shows he had a reasonable amount of money

and his lifestyle in Scotland suggests that the money did not come from there. To earn the money Donald may have worked¹⁹⁹ for James Miller, he may have worked on the goldfields, he may have worked in Melbourne or on farms and if he worked on farms it would probably have been in the Melbourne-Geelong-Ballarat triangle. Alternatively, Donald could have worked on all these options – or none.

Buninyong, although now a minor town near Ballarat, was the earliest inland community in Victoria being initially settled – other than by First Nation Australians / aborigines - by the Scottish Learmonth brothers in 1841 who were very much involved with Merino sheep farming. The Learmonth brothers also had the large estate of Ercildoune²⁰⁰ which is close to Ballarat, Donald later leased a farm next door to this property. Donald would have felt at home in this area - one estimate²⁰¹ is that three quarters of the pastoral pioneers of Victoria were Scottish.

Land tenure was a contentious issue in Victoria in the nineteenth century. Originally Australia was viewed as virgin country. This meant the first white settlers could claim massive amounts of land, which is what the Learmonth brothers had done. These land runs needed a yearly licence by the late 1840s. The problem was that change was needed to provide security of tenure but equally such rural land – basically sheep runs - did not pay their way in taxes when compared with urban areas and nor did they provide the variety of foodstuffs required for a growing population. These competing issues meant a mixed bag of quick-changing laws by short-lived governments in the 1840s and early 1850s with a focus on which Government rural land could be leased and which sold. The sold land was mainly for use by schools, churches, roads, railways, houses on rural farms, mining and other such infrastructure.

Once gold was discovered the problem of tenure was magnified due to the consequential massive population increase. The solution was that the Government allowed the massive sheep-dominated Estates to continue but also allowed significantly more rural land to be leased. The person leasing such land generally had first refusal when the lease came up for renewal and in some cases could even buy the land. So the Government came up with a decision which kept the competing land-hungry sides happy.

Donald's abattoir had some link with the local Pound as Donald killed two animals for it in the December 1857 – January 1858 period. It was a busy six days a week business – for the period 7 December 1857 to 9 January 1858 the abattoir killed sixty-six cattle (including three on Christmas Day) and 581 sheep were 'sold'. Did Donald run something of a saleyard for animals or was 'sold' in his accounts just a shorthand word for killed? The abattoir had previously been run by the Learmonth brothers.²⁰²

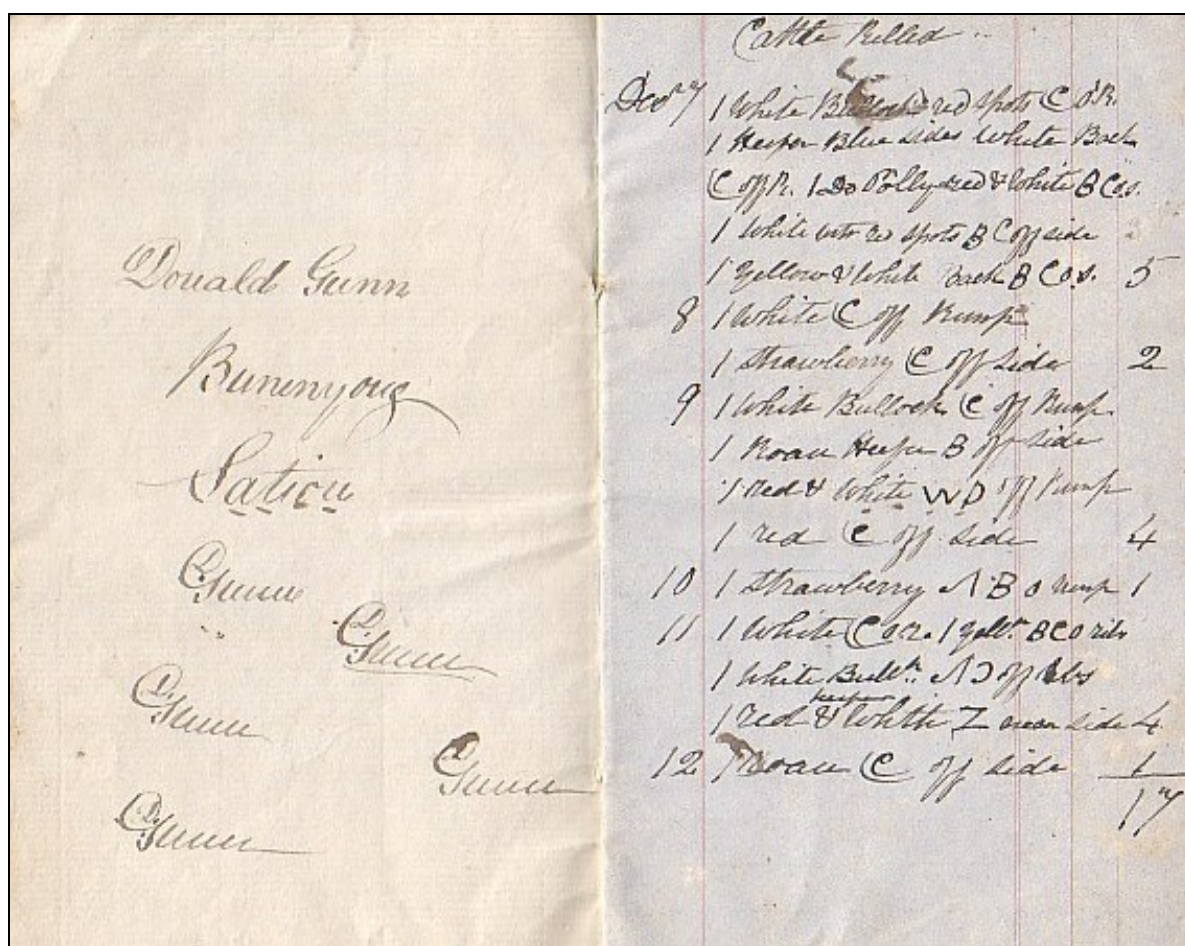
Donald had sublet the business by 1867, but the lease still had two years to run and remained in his name.

¹⁹⁹ Scottish 'family capitalism' in Victoria and elsewhere is well known. See <https://journals.openedition.org/abe/5822> accessed 15 November 2020.

²⁰⁰ The original spelling was without an 'e' see <https://journals.openedition.org/abe/5822> accessed 15 November 2020.

²⁰¹ See http://home.vicnet.net.au/~buninhis/newsletters/2014_jun.pdf - the figure used is from Margaret Kiddle's *Men of Yesterday*.

²⁰² Was the link why Donald's later property at Burrumbeet was next to the Learmonth's Ercildoune Estate?



Being part of Donald Gunn of Buninyong Station's abattoir account book.

A description²⁰³ of the site in December 1867 is of interest although it was then run by a Mr Kelsall –

The works are not very large, and at a distance there are no signs perceivable of any great manufacturing industry. It is a rather venerable cluster of weatherboard and shingle buildings about which the visitor speedily discovers ocular and olfactory signs of the mysteries going on within. Entering the yard, the visitor sees a heap of refuse in which a sow and litter of pigs are burrowing with industrious satisfaction. The heap consists of bones, horns, and bits of meat which have passed through the boiler. The bones snap easily, and seem almost calcined by the great heat to which they have been subjected. The bits of meat are in shreds, having been literally boiled to rags. Passing on we come to a lorry loading with great casks of tallow, and we scent everywhere a potent odour of fat, blood, wool, and soap, through all which there seems to run a stream of pollution, as a smell of decaying animal matter makes itself prominent, though not unbearably so even to a stranger. To the people employed on the spot the odours prevailing are no doubt hardly noticeable, perhaps they are even pleasant. Inside the works we find Mr Kelsall, junior, who courteously shows us over the establishment and gives, or procures for us, all the information we require. He takes us at once to the place where the terrible initial rites of the mysteries of the house are performed. This is a platform where the killers do their bloody business. We go up a slippery ladder to a slippery floor, and out upon an enclosed platform where there are four butchers, with sleeve-less bloody arms, knives in hand or mouth, and ankle deep in warm gore. Below is a paddock or pen for sheep, and connecting the paddock with the platform is an inclined way, up which the sheep have to make their march to anything but "dusty" death. A score or two of sheep

²⁰³ Page 5, 'The Ballarat Star' 16 December 1867.

stand huddled together on the platform yet unkilld, a half dozen lie dead with their throats gaping, one man is wrenching the skin from one carcase, one is disembowelling a sheep, one is hewing another sheep in pieces. There is a reeking of warm blood, an oozy, slippery feeling of blood wherever one puts his foot, and a retreat from the horrible place is beaten as quickly as possible. If we did not we should see the butchers at their quick murderous work. There lies a heavy axe or adze, all wet with blood, close by. With this they knock the sheep on the head, a dozen or so at the time, and then cut their throats. As we go off the platform into another place, we see the floor scattered with sheep carcasses—headless, tailless, and legless.

Turning round we see a heap of heads, and close by there hang rank after rank of legs of mutton. Perhaps fifty—perhaps four times that number. These go to the butchers, the Ballarat market absorbing most of them. All the rest of the animal, head, tail, feet, horns, body, viscera—everything but the wool and skin, goes into the boiler. This is a big cauldron of 8 1/2 feet diameter and 10 1/2 feet deep, water and heat to which are supplied by a furnace and boiler close by. This awful pot will take 350 reduced carcasses into its maw, and in eight hours, with a pressure on the boiler of 2 lb to the inch, the cauldron is ready to be discharged of its fat, which is run off to the coolers and casks. When cool it is white, though not quite equal to the best mutton tallow, which is composed of fat only without any admixture of the oil which comes from the flesh and extremities of the animal. After the fat has been run off there remains the flesh, which has been reduced to as sort of pulp. This is taken out and run along a tramway out of doors, where there is a screw press into which it is thrown and all the remaining grease squeezed out. The pulp and its contained debris of bones and horns are then thrown into the yard, and pigs feed and burrow in it with gluttonous delight. We now go to those parts of the works where the skins and wools are disposed of. Here are Mr Seymour, the head of the fellmongers, and his eleven or twelve assistants. Still everything is slippery, greasy, odorous, but happily not now horrible like the first place we saw. Creeping with bent backs through damp, oozy, greasy places we see out in the bright sunlight white beds of wool spread out to dry. But we go first to where Mr Seymour is, for he will tell us all about the skins and the wool. Here he stands on slippery boards beside a slippery vat full of what looks like a mixture of soap suds and pea-soup. In a shed close by are two pelters or fellers working away for their lives at sheepskins, scraping them clean of all wool left on them. We learn that the skins are brought from the platform of horrors and put to soak in the water pits for 24 hours, then in another pit of water, then they are taken into the sweating-house to loosen the wool from the skins and make the work of detachment more easy. We peeped into the sweating-house. It was slippery, greasy, dim, warm, full of pendant woolly skins, and over the floor and dropping from the pendant skins there swarmed fat white maggots in myriads. From the sweating-house the skins are taken to the fell mongers, who strip the pelt and sort the wool into six sorts. From the strippers the wool goes to the scourer, who puts it into a vat of hot water and hard soap; after that it is put into pure cold water, and then is taken to the drying grounds, each sort on its proper sheet or floor. In winter drying is hastened by hot air pipes placed in a room for the purpose. When dried the wool is put into a screw-press, and packed in bales ready for the market. We saw the whole process, or rather the scene and implements of the whole process, from the killing-place to the pressing and packing place, a pile of ready packed bales standing by the press ready for despatch to market. Besides the wool that comes from the skins there are fleeces sent by sheep owners to be washed and picked; and it was these that looked so white and glittering upon the drying grounds. Mr Kelsall boils down for sheep owners at a rate per sheep of one shilling, plus certain offal. His works are hardly yet in full trim; but he expects to be able to dispose of 500 sheep a day, the supply being equal to that daily amount of slaughter. The season commenced about a fortnight ago and lasts about three months. At this place sheep only, and not cattle, are boiled down. In the pre-auriferous days the Messrs Learmonth carried on the boiling-down business on this spot, and Mr Kelsall was for years their manager. Since then he has been soap-making, five

tons per week being made from fat obtained from the butchers. This business is now carried on at a shed about 300 yards off the boiling-down works, but we saw great piles of bars of soap in the latter place also.

By this time there was a secondary part of the abattoir business on one hundred and twenty-five acres of land leased from Donald at Windermere, near Cardigan / Burrumbeet near where Donald had moved to around 1860.

But Donald did not give up all his links to Buninyong. A major incident occurred in September 1867 when two drovers drowned driving a mob of cattle and flock of sheep for him to the abattoir; one was the elder brother of the Mr Kelsall to whom Donald had sublet the business.²⁰⁴

Donald was also actively involved in Buninyong as late as June 1868 – he chaired a meeting of the Buninyong Constitutional Association which was part of many such meetings in Victoria arguing about the laws of the day. The Constitutionlists were concerned that the law was the law; the alternative view was that laws were wrong due to not having universal male suffrage. The key point is Donald's central role as Chair; he seems never to have been a quiet bystander. His politically conservative position is also obvious.

²⁰⁴ 'The Argus' 28 September 1867.

A major recreational activity for Donald at this time was with the Buninyong Highland Society²⁰⁵ of which he was the Foundation Secretary. The Buninyong Highland Society²⁰⁶ was the first Highland Society established in Victoria and it started in 1857. The Society's Standing Rules²⁰⁷ make for interesting reading with its mix of social activity and co-operative help –

*STANDING RULES
OF THE
HIGHLAND SOCIETY BUNINYONG*

Rule 1st. It is imperative that Forty Pounds Sterling (£40) (the directors having power to add thereto) be secured out of the funds of the Society at the beginning of every year for the next Anniversary.

" 2nd. That this money be paid in prizes, as the directors shall see most fit for the promotion of their anniversary meeting.

" 3rd. That the anniversary shall be held on the 1st January, (New Years Day) unless that such day happens to be Sunday, in which case the following Monday to be appropriated for the Gathering.

" 4th. That any Funds available to the Society after the appropriation of the aforesaid sum be applied to Charitable purposes alone.

" 5th. Any Member of the Society in distress through sickness, or accident presenting his case to the directors, shall upon their being satisfied that he is a deserving object, receive such relief as his case requires or the funds of the Society permit.

" 6th. In case of there being no available funds, and a member applying for assistance, that the directors be empowered to call a Meeting of the Members in order that steps may be taken to afford immediate relief.

" 7th. That at the decease of any member of this Society, Five pounds Sterling (£5) be given to defray expenses.

" 8th. That at the decease of any member of this society, Fifteen Pounds Sterling (£15) be paid to his widow, or lawful children (Funds being available for this purpose).

" 9th. That if the deceased leave no widow or lawful children that the aforesaid sum be placed in the funds of the Society.

²⁰⁵ As well as Donald being involved with the Buninyong Highland Society he may have been involved with the (Ballarat) Caledonian Society 'The Caledonian Society was formed in November, 1858, and the first sports were held on New Year's Day, 1859, on what is now known as the Eastern Oval. Mr Hugh Gray was the first president, and with him as judges on that day were Charles Roy, Donald M'Donald and Donald Gunn'. Page 307, Walter Withers, *The History of Ballarat from the First Pastoral Settlement To The Present Time*. The Ballarat Caledonian Society continued to run Highland Games over the years - for example a Donald Gunn is recorded as a judge for the Highland Fling, the Best Dressed Highland Boy, Best Dressed Highlander and Tossing the Caber at the New Year's Day 1861 meeting so it is reasonable to assume a fairly continuous participation in these Games by a Donald Gunn for some time. See Page 2, 'Geelong Advertiser' 3 Jan 1861. I suspect this Donald Gunn was not the Donald Gunn who is the subject of this book; 'our' Donald Gunn is central in all Societies of which he was a member and not a peripheral judge. As well, 'our' Donald Gunn was fully involved with the Buninyong Highland Society and would have had little time to become involved in the physically distant Ballarat Caledonian Society. Also, other Gunns are known in Ballarat at this time so another Donald Gunn is a reasonable possibility. There is also no family paperwork relating to the Caledonian Society suggesting 'our' Donald was not involved in it.

²⁰⁶ See http://home.vicnet.net.au/~buninhis/newsletters/feb_06.html for a full history of the Society.

²⁰⁷ See <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~buninhis/> accessed 12 February 2006 for discussion about the society and the games over time.

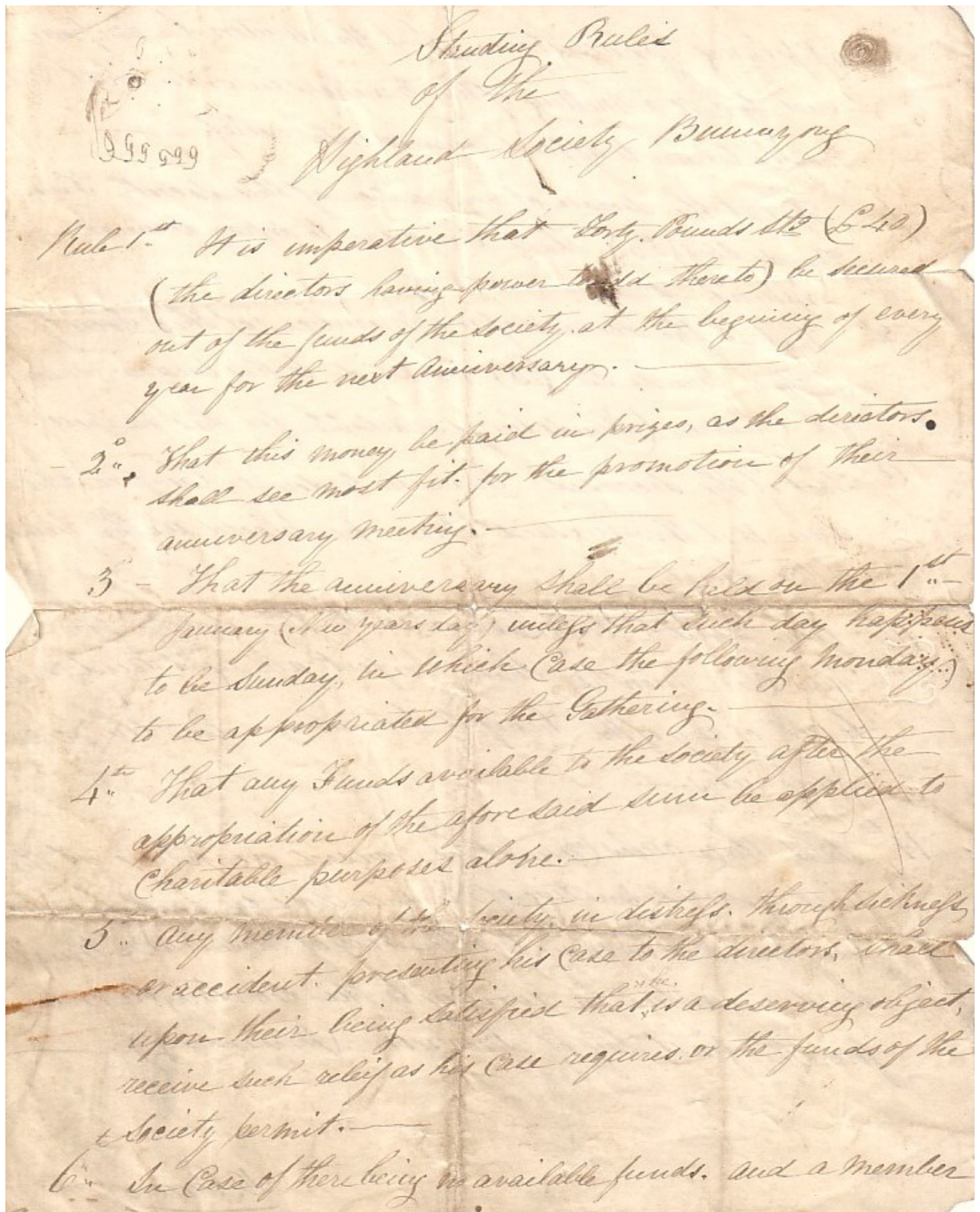
” 10th. Any member who has not paid into the Society for nine clear months, shall forfeit all right and claim to all or any of the benefits set down in the foregoing rules.

11th. That these rules cannot be revised excepting at the first general meeting of the members in each year, any member wishing to alter any of these rules must send in notice in writing to the Secretary on or before the first day of December, (preceding).

(Sgd. D. Gunn)

List of Members for the H. S.

Donald Stewart, Hugh A. McMillan, Donald Gunn, Dugald Cambell, Thomas J. Finlay, Charles Lameret, James McCrew, T.C. McDonald, John Connell, John Kennedy, Eneas Cameron, McLenan, McInnis



applying for assistance. That the directors be empow-
ered to call a meeting of the members in order that steps
may be taken to afford immediate relief.

7th That at the decease of any member of this Society Five
Pounds Sterg (£5) shall be given to defray funeral
expenses.

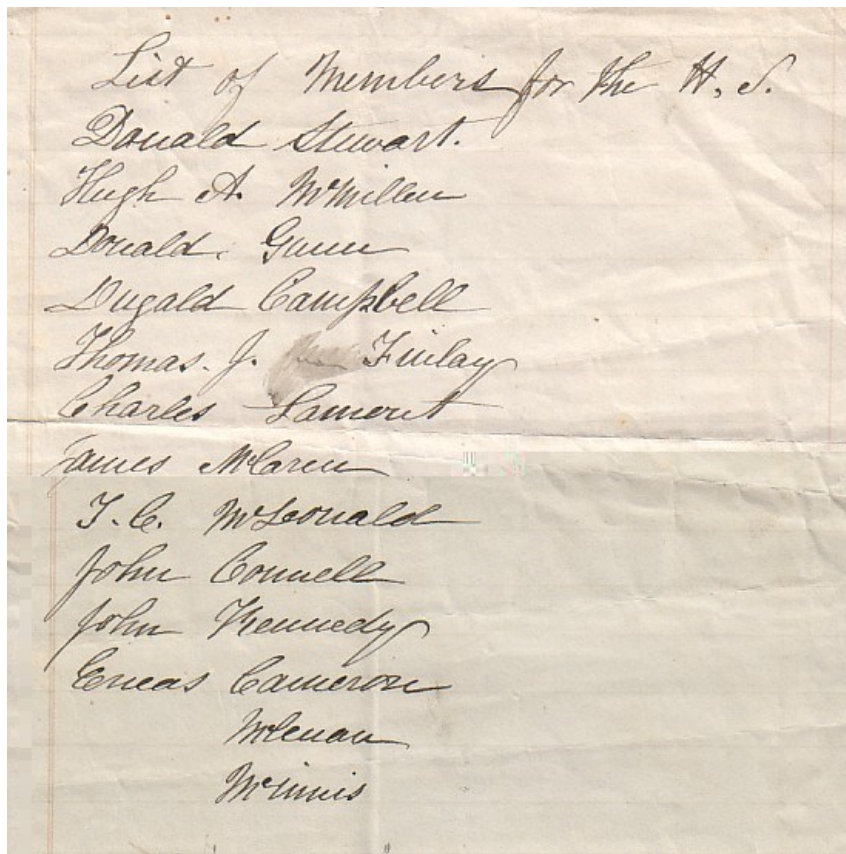
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ful Children (Funds being available for this purpose)

9th That if the deceased leave no widow, or lawful chil-
dren that the aforesaid sum be placed in the funds
of the Society.

10th Any member who has not ^{paid} in to the Society for
nine clear months shall forfeit all right and claim
to all or any of the benefits set down in the fore-
going rules.

11th That these rules cannot be revised excepting at the
first general meeting of the members in each year
any member wishing to alter any of these rules must
send in notice in writing to the Secretary on or be-
fore the first day of December (preceding).

D. G. G. G.



The Buninyong Highland Society's first 'sports and events' meeting was held at 1pm on 1 January 1858 on the ground below the Presbyterian school house at Buninyong. The President could not be there so Donald Gunn, as Secretary, ran the Games.

On 22 December 1858 the Society applied to the Buninyong Court for permission to fence a piece of common land between Hastie's Spring and Coleman's for the next, first real Highland Games. The applicants were Donald Stewart, Peter Hedrick, Mr McDonald and Donald Gunn.²⁰⁸

The second Buninyong Highland Gathering²⁰⁹ was held on 3 January 1859. D. Gunn²¹⁰ was still the Secretary as well as the Gathering Controller and some eight hundred to a thousand people attended.²¹¹ A Melbourne newspaper report said –

The second gathering of this society, which took place yesterday in a paddock adjoining the Geelong road, about a mile beyond the township of Buninyong, was attended with much success. The day was calm and delightful, for the heat of the sun was pleasantly moderated by a cool sea breeze, which prevented those present from being oppressed by the weather. This fact was no doubt one of the great causes which produced an attendance of nearly all Buninyong has of pretty damsels, matronly dames, and stalwart men. Not a few Ballarat men, too, were present, including most of those who joined in the Gathering on the Ballarat

²⁰⁸ Public Records Office Victoria, VPRS 296/2

²⁰⁹ Page 6, 'The Miner and Weekly Star' 7 January 1859.

²¹⁰ Page 6, 'The Argus', 5 January 1859.

²¹¹ http://home.vicnet.net.au/~buninhis/newsletters/feb_06.html accessed 16 November 2020

cricket ground on New Year's Day, and tartan kilts, goat-skin sporrans and Highland caps, were nearly as numerous as on the latter occasion. There could not have been less than 800 or 1,000 people on the ground, who appeared to take the utmost interest in the proceedings. The arrangements, under the control of the energetic secretary, Mr. D. Gunn, were very good, as far as the clearing of the ground was concerned. A paddock was fenced in with palings, and no one was admitted but the competitors, the Committee, and a very few friends, mostly consisting of ladies. The Committee, in deciding upon this regulation, however, failed to provide proper accommodation for many ladies and gentlemen ineligible for admission within the sacred precincts without the payment of a guinea subscription, and who, therefore, were compelled to witness the sports from the hill afar off, at a manifest disadvantage. Not a few grumbled loudly; and it is to be hoped the Committee will in future have more confidence in their own popularity, and provide for a larger attendance. The Secretary, however, very wisely insisted upon the carrying out of the regulations, such as they were, in their integrity, and thus a clear space was kept, without disorder. No untoward event interfered with the pleasantness of the occasion. The spectators mostly belonged to the respectable classes of society; and though Mr. Armitage's booth was filled with thirsty souls the whole day, a drunken man or an angry word were hardly to be seen or heard, nor were the decisions of Messrs. Stewart, M'Lachlan, and Gray, who were the judges, in any way questioned.

The medals of the society, which were exhibited on the ground, were of the most handsome description, and were manufactured, we were informed, in Geelong. On the obverse was the figure of a Highlander in full costume, with the motto "Lainh na cear tais," the whole surrounded with the words "Highland Society, Instituted 1857." The reverse was left blank to admit of the names of the winners being engraved thereon. The day passed off in the most delightful manner, and though we were compelled to leave before the games were concluded, we doubt not the sports ended as pleasantly as they began.

For Donald's medal, as described above, see the next page. The Gathering realised £340 17s and gave a profit of £60.²¹²

It seems Donald did not take any further part in the Buninyong Highland Society after July 1859. This is reasonable as he married in March 1859 (as is detailed in the next chapter) and certainly had moved to Cardigan / Burrumbeet near Ballarat by 1860 and took a great part in local activities there.

²¹² Page 5, 'The Argus' 17 January 1860.



Donald was awarded a silver medal by the Buninyong Highland Society on 3 July 1859. He is inscribed as the 'Late Honorary Secretary' so obviously had resigned by then. The medal originally had a large silver brooch attached but this has been lost. The year the Society started (1857) is shown on the front. The diameter is approximately 2¼ inches.

2.2. Cardigan / Burrumbeet

Personal

Soon after starting the abattoir business Donald married²¹³ Jane Surman (18 Jan 1836²¹⁴ – 14 Feb 1908), daughter of Daniel Surman and Mary Ann Watkins, on Friday 25 March 1859 in the Presbyterian school residence at Buninyong. They were married by the Reverend Hastie.



Back; Donald 1865-1933, Barbara 1870-1941, John Alexander (JA) 1860-1910,
Mary-Jane 1863-1934, Marcus Daniel 1868-1953

Front; William Watkins 1861-1935, Donald 1832-1901, Arthur Gilbert 1878-1933,
Jane (Surman) 1836-1908, Norman 1872-1944

Very front; Catherine Alexandrina 1880-1960

This family photo was probably taken in 1884 when JA was visiting Ballarat.

²¹³ Certificate of Marriage, no.157 of marriages solemnized in the District of Buninyong, Donald Gunn, 26, bachelor, of Buninyong, farmer, married Jane Surman, 23, spinster, of Buninyong, teacher, on 25 March 1859.

²¹⁴ Jane Surman was born at Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire and was in the 1841 and 1851 censuses for that village.

John Alexander (called 'J.A.' in his time) was born 11 February 1860 at Buninyong and died 21 September 1910 in Sydney, New South Wales. He left home in 1878 to be a jackaroo at South Yalgogrin Station (a large sheep farm) near Ardlethan in outback New South Wales. By 1886 he was Manager of it after having been the Overseer. JA became a pioneer colonial scientist and bought Borombola Station in the Wagga Wagga region of New South Wales. He then moved to Braehour Station in the same area. His work in creating a vaccine (in conjunction with his wife) for anthrax suitable for Australian conditions deserves greater recognition. He married, with descendants. He was a member of the New South Wales Parliament.

JA's wife was Jessie Marie Turner (born July 1862), son of the Scot William Turner²¹⁵ who played a prominent role as banker in the Melbourne 1880s land boom period. William Turner had been an unpaid teacher at Buninyong from 1 October 1862 to 31 December 1862 – it is probable that a friendship developed with the Gunns as how else would his daughter who was a high society, well-educated Melbourne girl (she went to P.L.C. and matriculated in Algebra, Geometry, English, French, German, Arithmetic, Geography and Elementary Physics), get to know JA let alone marry him in 1886? She also deserves more recognition as she looked after JA's laboratory.

For more on JA and his wife, see the following biography.

Other children -

- William Watkins was born 26 December 1861 at Cardigan and died 24 June 1935 at Crossover, Gippsland, Victoria. He married, with descendants. After initially working for JA at South Yalgogrin William moved to Gippsland by 1884 and established a sawmill business there.

- Mary Jane was born 18 January 1864 at Cardigan and died 7 May 1934 at Werribee, Victoria at her younger sister Barbara's house called Braemore. Mary Jane was unmarried. She was in charge of the housekeeping and the children at JA's Borombola Station by 1897 and probably earlier. She was a licensed vaccinator of the anthrax vaccine by 1903.

- Donald was born 20 November 1865 at Burrumbeet and died 29 December 1933 at Crossover. He married late and had no descendants. Donald was working at Crossover by 1899. He is recorded as a timber worker at the time of his death. He mined gold near Buchan at some point.

- Marcus Daniel was born 11 May 1868 at Burrumbeet and died 1 December 1953 at South Yarra, Melbourne. He married, with descendants. Marcus worked at JA's Borombola Station near Wagga Wagga as early as 1888 and was acting Manager there by 1903.

- Barbara was born 20 June 1870 at Burrumbeet and died 17 July 1941 at Werribee South, Victoria. Schoolteacher. She married, with descendants.

- Norman was born 11 May 1872 Burrumbeet and died 15 November 1944 in South Yarra, Melbourne. He was unmarried. He worked in 1903 at JA's Borombola station. He served in World War One at Gallipoli and later at the Somme in France where he was wounded. His occupation when enrolling for the war was 'agent' - presumably an insurance agent. He was left permanently disabled after his wartime chest injury.

²¹⁵ William was born at Kirkconnel, Dumfriesshire, Scotland 3 October 1831 and died at Braehour on 14 November 1919. For more information see my *William Turner: Selected Writings*.

- Hugh, was born 28 October 1875 Burrumbeet and died 24 June 1879 at Burrumbeet.

- Arthur Gilbert was born 19 May 1878 and died 18 June 1933 at Ivanhoe, Melbourne. He married, with descendants. He worked in Kalgoorlie by 1905. By 1916 he was a businessman in Ballarat.

- Catherine was born 13 September 1880 Burrumbeet and died 13 August 1960 Melbourne. She was a member of the Australian Army Massage Service in World War One. She never married.

The sister and brother Jane Surman and John Watkins Surman had emigrated with their parents in 1855 to Australia.²¹⁶ Jane and John ran, from 1857, the Buninyong Boarding School which was the first inland school in the Port Phillip District (as Victoria was called before it became a separate Colony from New South Wales). The school had both boarding and day pupils - the boarders were itinerant workers' children. It had been established by the Reverend Hastie of the Scottish 'Free' Presbyterian Church of Victoria with support from Thomas Learmonth. The Reverend Hastie later became Moderator²¹⁷ of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in 1865. It was a school during the week but a Church on Sunday until 1860 when a separate Church was built.

Given the lack of a Presbyterian Church at Buninyong, that the school was a Presbyterian boarding school, that Jane was a teacher and that the school had been set up by the Reverend Hastie one can see why Donald and Jane were married at the residence of that school.

Donald's younger sister Janet migrated in 1864 and married John Watkins Surman on 12 May of that year.²¹⁸ Janet may not have been very literate - certainly an early 1860s letter by her suggests that. She had looked after her grandfather Donald Gunn of Braehour and Brawlbin until his death in 1861, her grandmother Catherine Oslay Gunn and possibly others, in Scotland. Janet certainly had the idea of moving to Australia as early as September 1858 but various members of the extended family in Scotland were aware - it is shown in various letters held by the author - that they would be inconvenienced if Janet went to Australia so I suspect she had emotional pressure placed on her to stay in Scotland for an extended period. Janet and John married at 'Donald's farm' in Cardigan - see the following paragraph - according to the rites of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria; he was 33, she was 30. There are many descendants, mostly in Gippsland.

'Donald's farm?' An undated provisional document has Donald buying / leasing a farm at Cardigan in partnership with John Watkins Surman, his 'double' brother-in-law for £250, paid by both of them, but bought in the name of Gunn. There was to have been a manager - this suggests it was not a farm at which Donald was expected to live. It makes sense that this document was probably written around the period 1857 - August 1860 when John still taught at Buninyong and whilst Donald ran the abattoir there in at least 1857 / 1858 and probably for some time after. I suspect the manager issue was readily solved - Daniel Surman, father of Jane Surman and John Watkins Surman, died 'at his late residence, the farm of Messrs Gunn and

²¹⁶ Unknown newspaper, '... in 1855 he arrived in Victoria with his parents and only sister, the latter being Mrs Gunn, of Doveton Street North.'

²¹⁷ An earlier moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in 1861 was the Reverend Andrew Love of Geelong. His sister married William Turner who is discussed on page 20. The Reverend Love's grand-daughter was the celebrated female Australian World War One artist Iso Rae. The Reverend Love's brother John was a noted early Geelong and Melbourne photographer.

²¹⁸ John Watkins Surman arrived in Australia in 1855, taught at Buninyong in 1857, then moved in August 1860 to teach at Windermere State School for the nearly exclusively Presbyterian farming children and taught there until 1892. The school is now called Cardigan State School. John Watkins Surman was appointed as Postmaster at Cardigan 1 January 1861. By 1867 Donald is the named postmaster for Cardigan - see the next page.

Surman'²¹⁹ on 21 October 1869. There is also a record of 'Surman's farm' in Cardigan in November 1865.²²⁰ In other words, the Cardigan farm bought by Donald and John became the home of Donald's parents-in-law.

By 1860 Donald either owned or leased a farm in the Burrumbeet area²²¹ - it was no more than a mile from Lake Burrumbeet and adjoined the Ercildoune estate. The farm was of at least two hundred acres²²² and he probably stayed there for at least twenty-six years. It is possible that he first bought one farm, sold it and moved to another one nearby for twenty-years. A third alternative is that he initially lived at the joint Gunn / Surman farm at Cardigan which would make some sense if he was still commuting to Buninyong. This option would also explain why his second and third children were born at Cardigan. Donald was certainly the rate-payer of a Burrumbeet farm from at least 1865 to 1886. As already discussed, Donald also had some land at Windermere which was leased to the Buninyong abattoir by 1864.

Many letters exist to Donald from Scotland mainly concerned with assorted, detailed family gossip. It includes much on his sister Janet Gunn and how well she had - or had not - been treated in Scotland. And much on his two uncles and grandmother and the stresses of life in Scotland. But these letters are not seen after 1864. Did the Scottish Gunns stop writing or were the letters lost?

Donald applied on 6 June 1865 for twenty acres of unoccupied Crown land – called the Commons - at Windermere of which he was the manager. Windermere abuts both Burrumbeet (it is east of Burrumbeet) and Cardigan (being north of Cardigan). John Watkins Surman also made application as, separately, did Daniel Surman and Donald Campbell²²³ (who was a very near relative of Donald Gunn). Donald Gunn's view was that the Commons should remain 'common land' for all but if that was not to be the case then it was within his right to apply.²²⁴

In 1867 Donald Gunn was the named person²²⁵ for the Post Office at Cardigan, for how long it was in his name is not clear. Donald may have been the appointed Postmaster but I suspect it was his father and mother-in law who ran it as Cardigan matched where they lived; Donald by then was certainly living on a farm at Burrumbeet and that was a major business as by 11 February 1868 Donald had various employees including several Chinese and by February 1873 Donald needed at least fourteen or fifteen men.²²⁶

²¹⁹ Page 2, The Ballarat Star' 22 October 1869.

²²⁰ Page 2, 'The Ballarat Star' 1 November 1865.

²²¹ The 1869 *Post Office Directory* lists Donald Gunn farmer twice (one above the other), once for Burrumbeet and once for Cardigan; was the Cardigan entry for his father-in-law's farm which was in Donald's name?

²²² 1867 figures.

²²³ Donald Campbell was the son of May Gunn who was the younger sister of Barbara Gunn, Donald Gunn's mother. Donald Campbell is buried in the Gunn family plot in the Old Cemetery in Ballarat.

²²⁴ Page 23, 'The Ballarat Star' 19 September 1865.

²²⁵ https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Directory_for_Shires_and_Road_Boards_in/sWxZAAAcAAJ?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=cardigan+burrumbeet&pg=PA7&printsec=frontcover accessed 14 December 2020.

²²⁶ Page 2, 'The Ballarat Star' 6 February 1873.

Community involvement

Ballarat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society

Donald was on the Council of the Ballarat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society by 1860 and stayed on that Council until 1899.²²⁷ He was elected one of the Vice Presidents in December 1867²²⁸ and was President in 1872.²²⁹ Donald, unusually, only served one year as President - the short term was because he was appointed President of Ballaratshire on 11 November 1872 (see the next section): to simultaneously hold both positions would have been an enormous time demand. Donald was again a Vice President in 1883.

In March 1865 Donald was part of a delegation – as a member representing the ‘Ballarat Agricultural Society’²³⁰ – which welcomed the Governor of Victoria, Sir Charles Darling, to Ballarat. In 1872 he represented the society in Melbourne, helping appoint the Secretary to the Agricultural Department.²³¹ He was also one of three judges²³² who inspected farms in several areas of Victoria, including Ballarat and Kyneton, in December 1883. Again, he was the Ballarat Agricultural Society representative. There were prizes of £50, £30 and £20 on offer, these had been donated by Sir William Clarke, the largest landowner in Victoria.

Donald also regularly entered the Ballarat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society shows, for example in 1869 he entered the Draught Mare section but was not placed in the awards, but he did win the sheepdogs group.²³³

Donald was appointed before 11 October 1883 to be a paid sheep shearing inspector for entrants to the Ballarat Agricultural Society Show.²³⁴ He would visit ‘the stations and farms upon receipt of written notice, and after satisfying himself that the sheep have been evenly, equally and fairly shorn, (would) ... brand them and give the owner a certificate to that effect.’²³⁵ At a 7 April 1884 meeting of the Society it was reported²³⁶

²²⁷ Page 6, ‘The Argus’ 11 May 1871.

²²⁸ Page 4, ‘The Ballarat Star’ 9 December 1867.

²²⁹ Page 7, ‘The Age’, 09 Nov 1872.

²³⁰ Being various newspaper reports short version of the ‘Ballarat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society.’

²³¹ Page 6, ‘The Argus’, 9 November 1872.

²³² Page 4, ‘The Ballarat Star’ 27 November 1883.

²³³ Page 5, ‘Weekly Times’ 16 October 1869.

²³⁴ Page 5, ‘The Argus’ 11 October 1883: BALLARAT. WEDNESDAY. The Ballarat Agricultural Society has appointed Mr Donald Gunn of Burrumbeet as inspector of sheep which have been shorn and intended for exhibition at the Society’s sheep show in September, 1884. Mr Gunn visits the stations and farms upon receipt of written notice and after satisfying himself that the sheep have been evenly, equally, and fairly shorn, will brand them and give the owner a certificate to that effect. The inspector’s fee is £3 3s, to be paid at the time of inspection. The Ercildoune sheep have all been certified, and next week the Caringham, Ellingerrin, Barunah Plains and Berry Bank stations will be visited.

²³⁵ Page 5, ‘The Argus’ 11 October 1883.

²³⁶ Page 6, ‘The Argus’ 3 March 1884. And page 7, ‘The Argus’ 7 April 1884: THE BALLARAT SHOW SHEEP. BALLARAT, SATURDAY The dispute between the Ballarat Agricultural Society and Mr C. Ayrey, of Woroonooke station respecting his sheep entered for the next annual show was finally settled at the monthly meeting to-day. At the last meeting a resolution was carried that, as Mr Ayrey had withdrawn his refusal to allow his sheep to be inspected by the society’s inspector, the original motion debarring him from competing, and returning his offer of a £50 donation, should be rescinded. There was a large attendance of members, in anticipation of an unfavourable report from the inspector when the minutes were read.

The President (Mr Philip Russell), said the minutes were scarcely in accordance with the spirit of the resolution. It was understood that the motion for rescinding the action taken was carried conditionally upon the inspector’s report being favourable to the state of Mr Ayrey’s sheep. If the minutes were now confirmed, as just read, Mr Ayrey was entirely exonerated no matter what the tenor of Mr Gunn’s report might be. If the meeting adopted them without hearing the report he should refuse to take any further responsibility, and vacate the chair.

Mr G G MORTON thought the chairman should not attempt to coerce the other members by threatening to vacate the chair. Several members said the impression they were under was that the motion was carried contingent upon the inspector’s report.

Mr ROWE said that if the minutes were adopted, Mr Ayrey would leave that meeting without the slightest stigma on his name.

Mr GUNN said the question was, were the minutes correct or incorrect? If they were correct then they must be confirmed.

After some further discussion a motion was carried confirming the minutes and the president ... ruled that the inspector’s report could not be read.

Mr MORTON remarked that whatever Mr Russell had done in this matter, they all gave him credit for acting in a disinterested manner, and wholly in the interests of the society. He had however, been carried away by over zeal and ... the matter should be allowed to drop.

At a subsequent stage a letter was read from Mr Robert Simson owner of the Langi Kal Kal station with reference to the refusal to allow his sheep to be inspected. It transpired that the cause was a slight misunderstanding between the manager and the inspector and no action was taken.

that ‘There was a large attendance of members, in anticipation of an unfavourable report from (Donald)’ with the implication being that he was known for his direct way of speech and high standards. And ‘with two exceptions, there was not a holding on which he did not find the sheep improperly shorn — in some instances as much as 50 per cent.’ That meeting also included discussion of a problem caused by an earlier report from him.

Donald was again appointed an Inspector of the shearing for the Ballarat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society²³⁷ in July 1886 – he was paid £60 for six weeks work and £1 for every station visited. Donald being appointed to paid positions by the society from at least 1883 may reflect Donald’s monetary problems from at least 1883. This issue is discussed elsewhere in this life.

The Society had a tradition of ploughing matches. The first was held on 10 July 1856. These matches became grander over the years – by 1883 they involved competitors from other Australian colonies. The 20 - 21 July 1883 match involved Donald as Vice-President. ‘The Ballarat Star’ review of the second day is of note –

THE INTERCOLONIAL CHAMPION PLOUGHING MATCH SECOND DAY—FRIDAY.

...There was not much for visitors to see at Burrumbeet yesterday, but nevertheless there was at times a little excitement. An aboriginal known as “King Billy of Burrumbeet,” the last of a once numerous race, paraded the ground, with boomerang in hand, during the day. The old fellow, who was slightly under the influence of liquor, gave several exhibitions of his skill in using the native weapon. At the end of each performance the blackfellow would go round and ask for money. Upon being refused on one occasion, King Billy cried out, “Why do you not give; you should give me money; you live in my country...”

In reply to a question, Mr Gunn, the inspector, said that as the system was on its trial he had refrained from selecting any station for special report; but he could inform the committee that with two exceptions there was not a holding on which he did not find the sheep improperly shorn - in some instances as much as 50 per cent.

²³⁷ Page 6, ‘The Ballarat Star’ 5 July 1886.

Ballaratshire Councillor and J.P.

Donald was interested in political movements of the day; there is record of this in his Buninyong days and in September 1864 he participated in a meeting of 'The Anti-Transportation Movement' at Learmonth; British convicts were continuing to be transported to Western Australia. Donald proposed a motion – "That this meeting records a unanimous opinion that the introduction of transported convicts into any of the Australasian colonies is calculated to lower the tone of public morals, and to create and promote social evils of a most alarming character the whole of these colonies' ... He stated that if Western Australia required convicts, Victoria could send them hers."²³⁸

The image shows a handwritten document on aged, slightly torn paper. At the top left, it says "Learmonth" and "Colony of Victoria" with a bracket pointing to "To Wit." below it. The main body of the text is a declaration: "I, Donald Gunn, do solemnly declare that I will faithfully and impartially, according to the best of my skill and judgment, execute all the powers and authorities reposed in me, as a member of the Council of the Shire of Ballarat, by virtue of the Act numbered One hundred and seventy six." To the right of this text is a large, stylized signature "Don. Gunn". At the bottom left, it says "Taken before me this" followed by "day of" and "August A D 1865" with a bracket pointing to the signature. To the right of the bracket, it says "I David Law J.P.".

Learmonth
Colony of Victoria }
To Wit.

I, Donald Gunn, do solemnly declare that
I will faithfully and impartially, according
to the best of my skill and judgment, execute
all the powers and authorities reposed in
me, as a member of the Council of the Shire
of Ballarat, by virtue of the Act numbered
One hundred and seventy six.

Don. Gunn

Taken before me this }
day of } I David Law J.P.
August A D 1865 }

Donald Gunn's declaration of office.

He was first elected as a Shire Councillor on 30 Aug 1865²³⁹ in Ballarat, Vic.²⁴⁰ He ended his first term as a Shire Councillor on 10 Jun 1867 in Ballarat, Vic.

²³⁸ Page 6, 'The Argus' 22 September 1864.

²³⁹ Interestingly *The Argus* records (page 6, 12 August 1865) that Donald Gunn was beaten for the Ballarat Shire South Riding a little more than two weeks earlier than when he joined the Council.

SOUTH RIDING OF THE SHIRE OF BALLARAT.

NOMINATION PAPER.

Dated the 30th day of July 1870

WE, the undersigned Voters of the South Riding of the Shire of Ballarat, do hereby
nominate Donald Gunn
of Burrumbidgee as a Candidate for the
Office of Councillor for the South Riding of the said Shire, at the Election to be held for
the said South Riding of the Shire of Ballarat, on the 11th day of
August A.D., 1870

- 1 William Ross
- 2 D Robertson
- 3 Charles Stewart
- 4 John King
- 5 James Wilson
- 6 John Giverson
- 7 John Smyth
- 8 Abraham Burrows
- 9 Nicholas Carpenter
- 10 George Walker

AND I, the above-named
do hereby consent to such nomination.

Donald Gunn

Donald Gunn

(Signature of Candidate).

Donald Gunn's 1870 nomination paper

Donald became very involved with local politics. He stood for election as Councillor for the South Riding of the Ballaratshire Council in early August 1865 but was defeated 89 votes to 67 votes. An extraordinary election for the South Riding was held later that month which Donald won. This meant he became a

²⁴⁰ See Part 7.

Councillor on 30 August 1865 and continued as one until 10 June, 1867. Donald was re-elected to the Shire of Ballarat Council for the South Riding on 15 August 1870 (he won 217 votes to his opponent's 152) and was President of the Shire from 11 November 1872 until 12 October 1874 whilst still representing the South Riding. As already mentioned, Donald was also President of the Ballarat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society in 1872. Donald was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace on the 30 December 1873, perhaps in consequence of becoming President and he did work as a J.P. over the years.²⁴¹ Donald lost the August 1876 election and so ended his Ballaratshire political career.

The Shire meetings were held every second Monday at 1pm. The duties of a Councillor were varied. There were the normal meetings²⁴² in one of which Donald moved a motion²⁴³ saying the Shire Council should pay the medical fees of those contracting scarlet fever and not able to pay for it themselves. This seems a modern idea arguing for state support for the poor. There were also formal dinners to attend.

The railways were crucial for opening up land to farmers. Donald (or more accurately, presumably, his wife and servants) provided lunch to the Minister of Railways and various Councillors at his home at Burrumbeet 7 January 1873 whilst President. Following that event, a public meeting was held in February - the issue was where to have a new railway station at Burrumbeet. Donald chaired that meeting and some viewed it as 'rowdy'.²⁴⁴ Basically the core of the problem was that the chosen place for the new Station was – or was not - wrong. The suggestion in the newspaper report was that the meeting was stacked with workers from the Ercildoune estate who wanted it where it had been chosen to be but the rest of the locals wanted it on 'Gunn's Corner'.²⁴⁵ Was the Ercildoune estate better connected to the Minister of Railways than other locals? One suspects so - it seems the railway station was not built on 'Gunn's Corner.' Donald again met with the Minister of Railways in December 1873, again he represented the Ballaratshire Council.

Various other locally important events filled Donald's life in the early 1870s - the Governor of Victoria twice visited Ballarat and Donald escorted him in May and June 1873. Donald was appointed to the newly formed Ballarat Local Forest Board on 9 September 1873.²⁴⁶ In 1874 he campaigned to improve Lake Burrumbeet.²⁴⁷ In May 1874 he attended a meeting of the Ballarat Farmers' Club²⁴⁸ which included a talk about how to possibly cure fluke infected sheep; Donald seconded the motion of thanks. Did he discuss this meeting at home and stimulate his eldest son's interest in curing diseases in animals? But Donald also undertook other activities as part of his Council duties – for example, he visited a poor woman who was meant to be living in a hovel without the necessities of life in 1876 and tried to help her.²⁴⁹ Was Donald supportive of the poor due to his early life in Scotland?

²⁴¹ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Courier' 22 January 1878.

²⁴² Page 6, 'The Argus' 19 April 1873.

²⁴³ Page 6, 'The Argus' 8 December 1875.

²⁴⁴ Page 2, 'The Ballarat Star' 6 February 1873.

²⁴⁵ Page 2, 'The Ballarat Star' 6 February 1873.

²⁴⁶ Page 6, 'The Argus' 9 September 1873: BALLARAT FOREST BOARD. A Ballarat Local Forest Board, the 'Ballarat Courier' states, has been appointed by the Hon, the Minister of Lands. It will have the control and management of all state forests in the shires of Ballarat, Creswick, Bungaree, Buninyong, Ballan, and Meredith, and consist of the following members:- ... Donald Gunn, president, to represent the Council of the Shire of Ballarat; ... - provided that, if any person so appointed shall cease to hold office as specified, he shall thereupon also cease to be a member of the Ballarat Local Forest Board.

²⁴⁷ Page 21, 'The Leader' 8 August 1874.

²⁴⁸ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 18 May 1874.

²⁴⁹ Page 3, 'The Argus' 14 June 1876.

His local fame was considerable and he was considered in February 1874, whilst still President of the Council, as a candidate for Parliament for the seat of Ripon and Hampden but he was not prepared to consider it unless ‘requisitioned by voters from all parts of the electorate.’²⁵⁰

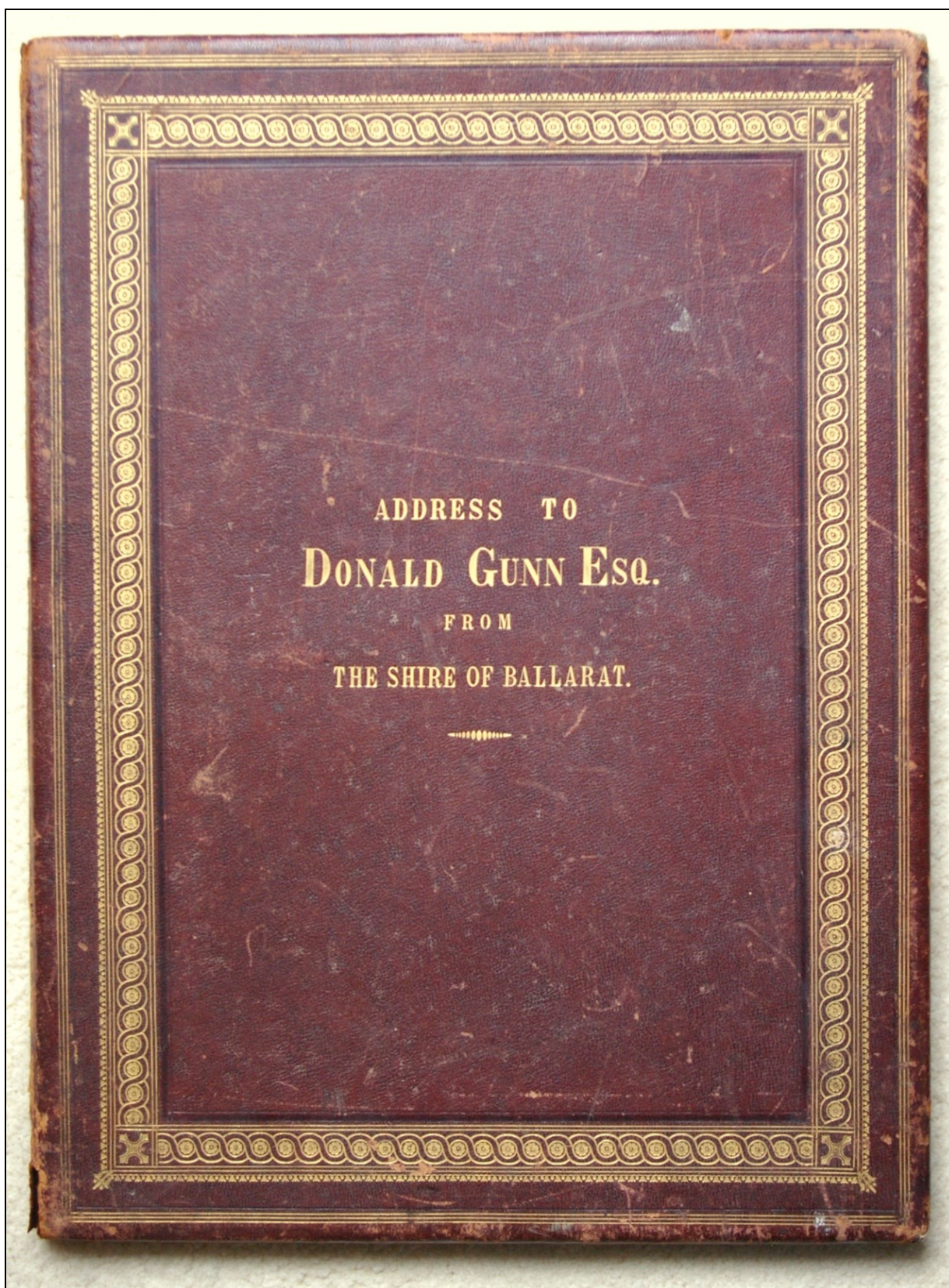
After losing the Council August 1876 election there was a banquet and presentation in his honour held at the Stag Hotel in Learmonth in December to commemorate his work for the Council. ‘The Ballarat Courier’²⁵¹ wrote –

Mr. Donald Gunn JP, ex-councillor for the south riding of Ballaratshire, was, at the instance of that body, entertained at the Stag Hotel, Learmonth ... on the occasion of presenting that gentleman with an address, in token of the esteem in the ten years he had the honor to hold a seat on that council. Between thirty and forty gentlemen ... assembled to do honor to the occasion, and the gathering was, to say the least of it, a most gratifying expression of approval of his ability not only as councillor but also as president of the shire, which position he held two years in succession ... The chairman (of the banquet) then called upon Mr Richmond, as secretary of the shire, to read the address to Mr Gunn which was as follows: - ‘To Donald Gunn, Esq. J.P., Burrumbeet. Sir, We, the president and councillors of the shire of Ballarat, desire to convey to you our warm appreciation of the very energetic and valuable services rendered by you as president of the shire and councillor for the south riding. We beg to acknowledge the impartial and gentlemanly manner in which you presided over all meetings of the council during your term of the presidentship, and your steady and consistent advocacy of all measures affecting the welfare of the shire, as a councillor for a period exceeding ten years. In conclusion we sincerely wish you, Mrs Gunn, and family long life and prosperity. Sealed and signed by the president and secretary.’ The address, which was handsomely bound in morocco ... was then handed to Mr Gunn ... Mr Gunn briefly responded, and said that he received this expression of their good feeling towards him in the warmest way possible If in any way he could further the interests of Ballaratshire he would be most happy to do so. If the south riding did not think that he was fit to represent them, he was proud to see every one of his colleagues present to do him honor. ...

Donald was obviously popular and his work for the community was appreciated even though the South Riding, finally, did not return him.

²⁵⁰ Page 4, ‘The Ballarat Star’ 7 February 1874.

²⁵¹ Page 4, ‘The Ballarat Courier’ 13 December 1876.



The presented Address. It is approximately 20½ inches long by 15½ inches wide.



The presented Address.

Personal, continued

The rural world continued. It is recorded that for the Gunns in the 'late summer of 1876-1877, while living at Burrumbeet, there was a heavy storm during the night and in the morning the tubs, buckets, plough furrows, and every depression that held water were full of a small fish similar to whitebait, and from 2 1/2 in. to 3 in. in length ... they must have numbered hundreds of thousands.'²⁵²

Donald Gunn was still busy - he won a silver medal at the Paris Exhibition²⁵³ of May to November 1878 in Class 69 (Cereals, Farinaceous Products and Products derived from them) with his exhibit of one bushel of Frampton wheat. The Exhibition was on a sixty-six acre site with half the space given to French exhibits and the other half to the rest of the world; the award was made by an International Jury.

Over the years much detail exists for all sorts of auctions of Donald's livestock, farming implements, crops and land. The newspapers of the day record various auction dates for him including 16 April 1868, 2 April 1869, 3 February 1870, 25 March 1870, 27 Nov 1873 and 20 Feb 1879. These events seem odd for a committed farmer.

As well, the lease on the Burrumbeet farm was to run out on 31 March 1882, the farm at this time was in two parts – one of 815 acres, the other of 316 acres on which was the accommodation. This approaching end of lease meant by March 1881 Donald had given up cropping and was just grazing animals. Consequently, he sold in that month assorted items no longer required including forks, rakes, weighing machines, ploughs and much, much more. There was also a major auction on 1 December 1881 of his growing crop. But Donald changed his mind or found some more money – in March 1886 he was still a farmer at Burrumbeet²⁵⁴ but had 'inflammation of the lungs' and so could not attend the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society meeting of 7 March. Donald stayed on his farm till sometime around mid-1886.

This continual auctioning of items and leaving / not leaving the farm has only one logical reason – Donald was a speculator (or possibly gambler) who regularly lost money. His grandson John William Gunn,²⁵⁵ who was the eldest son of William Watkins Gunn (the second son of Donald Gunn), recorded that Donald was a 'whisky drinker ... (who) Lost his money.' Failed speculation explains why a lifelong farmer kept selling his items and stock. And why else would Donald, who certainly ran a major farm for many years, end his days in Ballarat moving from rented accommodation to rented accommodation? See Chapter 2.3. As already discussed, Donald also took paid work with the Ballarat and District Agricultural and Pastoral Society from at least 1883 onwards; it suggests a need for cash. It is worth noting that his friend William Turner,²⁵⁶ the Melbourne banker and father of his eldest son's wife, was a major speculator who also lost his wealth. The main Victorian speculation was on land which would suit a farmer's hopes.

In between his financial issues, farming, family and meetings Donald enjoyed sporting activities. In November 1864 he helped with the Lake Learmonth regatta as a Steward. He participated in pigeon shooting as one 'one of the leading sportsmen' of the area²⁵⁷ in April 1871. He also coursed dogs with some success, in

²⁵² Page 4, 'The Argus', 19 November 1920.

²⁵³ Page 5, 'The Ballarat Star' 25 August 1883.

²⁵⁴ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 8 March 1886.

²⁵⁵ John William Gunn — his notes, held in 1996 by Dorothy Margaret Jenkin (nee Milner): 'Donald - whisky drinker and bought station near Ararat beyond Ercildoune. Lost his money...'.
²⁵⁶ See page 20 for more information on William Turner. Page 237 Michael Cannon *Land Boom and Bust* – 'William Turner ... made a secret composition (bankruptcy arrangement) with his creditors in September 1892. His debts totalled more than £24,000, on which he was able to pay 3d in the £1 ... Cause of insolvency: speculation in land and shares.'

²⁵⁷ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 25 April 1871.

1879 and 1882 and presumably at other times. He was also involved with 'The Ballarat Hounds' – or fox hunting – to some degree in 1889 when he was part of those who drove on the roads following the pack.²⁵⁸ Presumably he may have participated at an earlier time.

Donald also remained part of the wider community. Many examples of his involvement exist including him chairing the farewell to Mr Duncan Robertson in September 1873²⁵⁹ (which event had over seventy 'gentlemen' present), being elected as the Learmonth Branch delegate to go to the Melbourne Conference of the Victorian Farmers Union in 1879²⁶⁰ and addressing a meeting in June 1881 about the operation of the new Stamp Act. He also chaired the annual Prize Giving at the local school in February 1885.

But life had its sad times – Donald Campbell, mentioned elsewhere in this life, spent many years living with Donald and Jane. He died at their home in March 1885 and his remains were interred in the Gunn plot with Donald, Jane, Hugh and Mary-Jane.

Donald was Past Master of the Ballarat branch of the Lodge Order of St Andrew Friendly Society by no later than 1886.²⁶¹ The title of the Society shows its Scottish interest. Its interests included helping its members in times of trouble. In 1892 the Lodge presented

*Br Donald Gunn with a testimonial in recognition of his long and valued services as librarian to the lodge. The library has just been replenished, and now contains a first-class assortment of standard works and the most popular productions of modern authors. Br John Ross, W. M. made the presentation, which consisted of a splendid gold embossed item manufactured by Br A. T. Thompson, of Main street, and referred to Br Gunn's lengthy services to the lodge. Br Gunn suitably replied, and referred to the change which had been made in the status of the society, whereby the order is now prepared to accept candidates of any nationality provided they are of good character, and that with the splendid library and additional attraction offered the membership list would show a considerable increase by the end of the year.*²⁶²

But by early 1886 Donald – and his family's time - at the farm was over. That also meant leaving the local Presbyterian community. 'The Ballarat Star' of Tuesday 23 March 1886 recorded that

An interesting meeting of the congregation assembled, in the Presbyterian Church, Burrumbeet, on Friday evening last, for the purpose of saying farewell to the family of Mr Donald Gunn, J.P. who is leaving Burrumbeet. The Rev. Mr Thomson occupied the chair, and in a few well-chosen words expressed on behalf of the congregation, the esteem in which the family was held, and the sorrow felt that they were leaving the district, at the same time expressing most earnest wishes for their future welfare. He then presented Mrs Gunn with a very handsome workbox and writing desk combined, and Miss Gunn (Mary Jane Gunn) and Miss Barbara Gunn with a pair of handsome bracelets. The young ladies have acted as organists to the church, while the many services Mrs Gunn has rendered the church during her 22 years residence are too numerous to particularise. Mr Gunn, on behalf of his wife and daughters, suitably responded ... I understand that it is the intention of Mr Gunn's friends to give that gentleman a farewell banquet on the 15th prox., and from the wide circle of friends which Mr Gunn has gained the affair is certain to be not only well attended but a most enjoyable and gratifying leave-taking on the part of all.

²⁵⁸ Page 25, 'The Australasian' 3 August 1889.

²⁵⁹ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 8 September 1873.

²⁶⁰ Page 3, 'The Argus' 8 October 1879.

²⁶¹ Page 11, 'The Ballarat Star' 15 January 1887 - 'It was decided to have Past Master Br Donald Gunn's name placed on the merit board and to present him with a handsome certificate for the efficient manner in which he had conducted business during his term of office.'

²⁶² Page 10, 'The Ballarat Star' 18 February 1892.

Of interest are the significant roles played in the Burrumbeet Presbyterian Church (which was actually in Windermere) by Donald's wife Jane and their two daughters. Jane's brother William Watkins Surman was a Burrumbeet Presbyterian Church stalwart - he not merely helped physically build this church but also conducted services there. Donald did not receive a gift; was Donald too busy elsewhere to fully involve himself with church activities?

The previously mentioned farewell banquet to Donald was later reported in 'The Ballarat Star' of Saturday 17 April 1886 –

BANQUET TO MR DONALD GUNN J.P.

A complimentary banquet was tendered to Mr Donald Gunn, J.P. of Burrumbeet, at the Two Bridges hotel, on Thursday, evening, on the occasion of that gentleman's leaving the farm he has occupied for over 20 years. – When it became known that Mr Gunn was about to sever his connection with the district, a meeting of his friends was held to consider the best means of tendering a public farewell to a prominent resident of the shire and magistrate of the district, and it was resolved that Mr Gunn be invited, to a banquet, and a committee was formed to bring the affair to a successful issue, Cr John Innes, of Windermere being appointed chairman; and Cr John King, of Two Bridges, secretary. The banquet on Thursday night showed how successful these two gentlemen had been in their efforts, about 60 gentlemen sitting down to a recherche spread after Host Comber's best style. Mr G. G. Morton, J.P. of Labona, occupied the chair, and, Messrs Baird and King the vice-chairs, having round them gentlemen connected with every interest in the neighborhood, most of the surrounding districts being also well represented. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, toasting and songs became the order of the night. The following is the programme observed:— The toast of "The Queen," by the chairman. Apologies were here tendered for President Rennie, Major Greenfield, and Mr Quinliyan. "The Governor," by the chairman; "Parliament," by Cr J. Baird, responded to by Mr Uren, M.L.A.; "Our Guest," by the chairman; song, by Mr Cox. Mr Gunn then responded in an appropriate and feeling manner, referring to the many pleasant relationships existing between himself, the members of his family, and his neighbors. "The Agricultural and Pastoral Interests," by Mr J. W- H. Lugg. Responded to by Messrs Bath and Baird. "The Commercial Interest," by Mr H Curwen-Walker. Response by Mr R. Tunbridge. Recitation, Mr M'Cubbin. "The City of Ballarat," by Mr B. Hepburn. Response by Mayor Salter. "The Mining Interest," by Mr Bath. Song, Mr M'Donald. Response by Mr M'Cubbin. "The Shire of Ballarat," by Mr Lester. Response by Cr J. Dalgleish and Cr. John Innes. Recitation, Mr Hunter. "The Ladies," by Cr John Spiers, Song Mr M'Donald, Response by Mr R. Dalgleish and Mr H. Bregenzer. "The Press," by Cr J. Dalgleish. Responded to by Mr Lugg on behalf of the Ballarat papers. "The Host and Hostess," by Mr. Moncrieff. Responded to by Mr Comber. Toast, "Chairman and Vice-Chairman," by Mr Gunn, and responded to. During the evening, advantage was taken of the presence of Mr H. Curwen Walker (who is also leaving the district), to toast his health and that of his family. From the tenor of the remarks of the various speakers, it is evident that Burrumbeet in particular and the Ballaratshire generally, has lost a much appreciated resident. The chairman and other gentlemen pointing to the many services Mr Gunn had rendered the district in his various capacities of member of the road board, councillor and president of the shire, justice of the peace, vice-president of the agricultural society, and other temporary public positions, as evidence of the kind of gentleman they were losing from their midst, one and all joining in wishing him and his family "God-speed." The National Anthem and "Auld lang syne" brought a pleasant and acceptable leave-taking to a successful close

One has to assume that the reason for leaving the farm was that Donald's financial luck finally ran out around mid to late 1886. He was only 54 years old and had worked hard all his life but certainly had employees on the farm who could do the hard work. He also had enough sons to run a farm – if there was a farm. But the oldest sons had left home – **J.A.** was appointed Manager at South Yalgogrin Station, Ardlethan, New South Wales in 1886. See the next biography for his extraordinary life. His second son, William Watkins, was working in Gippsland by 1884. Donald's third son but fourth child - also called Donald - had been born in 1865. It is not clear what this Donald was doing in 1886 but soon after he worked for William Watkins in Gippsland. In other words, the elder sons had dispersed from the greater Ballarat region; they seemed to have had no expectation of taking over a working farm. Again, this provides support for the idea that Donald lost money.

2.3. Ballarat

Wendouree

The Gunns moved to Wendouree, on the western fringe of Ballarat, by January 1887²⁶³ but possibly earlier. Donald's farewell banquet was, as already discussed, in April 1886 – it makes sense that they would have moved soon after it.

Money was still needed. At Wendouree Donald worked as an insurance agent which he continued to be for the rest of his life. He worked for a variety of companies, probably many simultaneously, including the Equitable Insurance Association of New Zealand, The Federal Mutual Livestock Insurance Association of Australia Ltd., The South Australian Insurance Company Limited, The Royal Insurance Company and the Lion Fire Insurance Company. There is no record of him being such an agent before leaving Burrumbeet.

A notice from the Equitable Insurance Association of New Zealand, for which Mr Donald Gunn, Wendouree, is the local agent, appears in our advertising columns. The amount of business done for the past year in this district has exceeded even the most sanguine expectations, and has been accompanied with prompt payment of losses and satisfaction to the insured.

Page 2, 'The Ballarat Star' 3 December 1887.

'Mr Donald Gunn, Wendouree' was also the local agent for the Equitable Insurance Association of New Zealand as shown by the above newspaper extract which suggests he has done his job well.

Donald continued with some community work – he was the returning officer for the 'Board of Advice for School District 83'²⁶⁴ (being the Burrumbeet School) in October 1887. He had not quite given up his past commitment to Burrumbeet.

Donald's home address in Wendouree is not known but the local newspapers have many advertisements by him²⁶⁵ until 30 May 1888. It is presumed the Gunns left Wendouree sometime between June and December 1888.

²⁶³ Page 13, 'The Australasian' 29 January 1887.

²⁶⁴ Page 3, 'The Ballarat Star' 19 October 1887.

²⁶⁵ For example, page 3 'The Ballarat Star' 27 February 1888 and page 1 'The Ballarat Star' 17 May 1888.

109 Doveton Street North, Ballarat

By 15 January 1889²⁶⁶ the Gunns had moved to 109 Doveton Street North, Ballarat; Doveton Street is now the Midland Highway with huge amounts of redevelopment. Basically, nothing is left of the area from the Victorian times bar the occasional hotel and odd other building which was missed in the redevelopment of the 1960s and 1970s.

Donald continued his involvement with the local community – he chaired a political meeting at Cummins Hotel in Doveton Street on 20 March 1889.²⁶⁷ And, as already discussed, he was part of the Ballarat branch of the Lodge Order of St Andrew. He also continued to commit to meetings with the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society, finally though that Society became too much. In September 1899 –

*The resignation of Mr D. Gunn from the council of the Ballarat Agricultural and Pastoral Society was received at Saturday's meeting of that body. Mr Gunn wrote, stating that after 39 years' service as a member of the council, he was obliged to tender his resignation owing to his hearing not being good, and consequently he was not able to follow the discussions at the council meetings. He expressed his acknowledgment of the kind and courteous manner in which he had always been treated by the members, and stated that he would always do all he could to further the interests of the society.*²⁶⁸

Donald's work continued – notices by him for various insurances companies such as the Royal Insurance Company²⁶⁹ occur in the papers. But a further string to his bow is with real estate – Donald is selling an allotment²⁷⁰ in Sturt Street Ballarat with 'with six roomed house and four-room house, stabling and outhouses. These dwellings are rented to respectable tenants, and yielding a good income.'

Home life also continued - on 5 March 1890 his second grand-daughter Jessie Jean Gunn was born at Doveton Street. She was the second daughter of JA and Jessie. Their first daughter Gladys Emily Gunn had been born in 1887 at Jessie's father's and stepmother's home of Nithsdale in Brighton, Melbourne - it was normal for daughters to go home to parents to give birth. Why, after the first child, did Jessie go to her in-laws to give birth to her last three children? It is noteworthy that the first two children of William Watkins Gunn were also later born in the homes of the Ballarat Gunns. To have two daughters-in-law breaking societal convention suggests Donald and Jane were very welcoming.

It is not known when Donald and his family left Doveton Street North but it was before late August 1891.²⁷¹

²⁶⁶ Page 2 'The Ballarat Star' 15 January 1889.

²⁶⁷ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 21 March 1889.

²⁶⁸ Page 5, 'The Ballarat Star' 4 September 1899.

²⁶⁹ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 16 February 1891.

²⁷⁰ Page 6, 'The Ballarat Star' 16 April 1891.

²⁷¹ Page 3, 'The Ballarat Star' 26 August 1891.

32 Brougham Street, Ballarat

By August 1891²⁷² the Gunns had moved to the corner of Armstrong and Brougham Street – to be more accurate they moved to 32 Brougham Street. Brougham Street intersects Doveton Street North. Today the street has been renumbered and is a place of small, Victorian weatherboard houses. This again supports the idea that Donald lost money as this area was not the home of a retired, wealthy farmer. And this lack of money was compounded by a major economic depression hitting Victoria from the late 1880s.

Did any money ever come from his children? There are no records to say one way or the other but a hint is given in the 1910 will of JA where £150 a year for life was left to his mother Jane even though she was dead by that time. I suspect the £150 a year was the continuation of a yearly allowance in place when the will was drawn up but whether the amount had been issued whilst Donald was alive is not known. Certainly, one understands why JA could have issued an allowance – he was the wealthiest of the children by far and the most senior. Equally one understands why, if the money was issued whilst Donald was alive, it was issued to Jane as Donald had lost enough money and his ego may have made it awkward to accept money.

Donald continued his work as an insurance agent and regularly advertised in the newspapers. For example, 'The Ballarat Star' of 27 July 1892 carried an advertisement saying 'FOR SALE, a FARM of 160 acres near Ballarat, on easy terms; also the goodwill of several good hotels. Apply Donald Gunn. Commission Agent. 32 Brougham Street. Ballarat North.' So, he was not merely an insurance agent but continued as a real estate agent.

Donald and Jane attended the Mayoral Ball²⁷³ in July 1892 and also the return ball²⁷⁴ given by the Citizens of Ballarat to the Mayor and his Wife. I suspect this was not the first time the Gunns attended such events: Donald was a citizen of note in Ballaratshire even though he had come down in circumstances. His interest in politics had also not waned - in October 1900 Donald chaired a meeting of candidates for the forthcoming Victorian General Election.²⁷⁵

Donald was still in Brougham Street on 13 May 1892 as Alexander Donald Gunn, the third child of JA and Jessie, was born there.

It is not clear when the Gunns left 32 Brougham Street. Donald still used the address on 28 July 1892²⁷⁶ but the Gunns were certainly in their next home by February 1895.

²⁷² Page 3, 'The Ballarat Star' 27 August 1891.

²⁷³ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 16 July 1892.

²⁷⁴ Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 11 August 1892.

²⁷⁵ Page 5, 'The Ballarat Star' 6 April 1892.

²⁷⁶ Page 3, 'The Ballarat Star' 28 July 1892.

185 Lydiard Street, Ballarat

The Gunn family moved to 185 Lydiard Street before 28 February 1895 as another grandson, John William Gunn, was born there on that day. John William was the eldest son of William Watkins Gunn. The second child of William Watkins - Jean Margaret Gunn – was also born at Lydiard Street on 6 April 1896. On 23 May 1895 the fourth child of JA and Jessie - Angus William Gunn – was also born at Lydiard Street. To restate, tradition has daughters going to their parents' home to give birth and not to their in-laws, as such these births are a mark in Donald's and Jane's favour. Another significant family event occurred at Lydiard Street – Donald and Jane's daughter Barbara married Isaac Padgett on 29 March 1899. Barbara was teaching at Mt Cole before her marriage.²⁷⁷ It is probable that of Donald and Jane's children only Arthur Gilbert²⁷⁸ and Catherine were at home after that marriage.

Donald continued with earning a living selling real estate²⁷⁹ and being an insurance agent.²⁸⁰ But drought occurred in the mid-1890s and lasted for a few years so one suspects fewer people would have been buying insurance.²⁸¹

Donald was very ill by 6 February 1901²⁸² and died on 14 February 1901. He died from broncho-pneumonia and heart disease.²⁸³ The Ballarat Star's comment was

*A very old and highly respected resident of Ballarat, in the person of Mr Donald Gunn, insurance agent, died at his home on Soldiers' Hill yesterday. Deceased, who was 68 years of age, had resided in Ballarat for a great number of years, and was probably one of the best known men in the district, where he had made hosts of friends by his genial disposition, and the news of his death will be heard of with regret. He leaves a widow and grown-up family to mourn their loss.*²⁸⁴

The private funeral was on Saturday 16 February and Donald was interred in the Ballarat Old Cemetery Area in the Gunn plot, namely DN Sec.14 Lot 5, Ballarat, Vic.²⁸⁵ This plot was bought by JA.²⁸⁶

Donald's wife Jane later lived with her youngest daughter Catherine at Clarendon Street according to the 1903 and 1905 electoral rolls. Clarendon Street intersects Lydiard Street. In 1904 their address was 16 Doveton Street according to the Victorian Post Office Directory. Jane died on 14 February 1908 at 616 Lydiard Street²⁸⁷ – again another move which suggests rental properties. Jane is buried in the same grave as her husband.

²⁷⁷ Page 416, D. Gunn, A. Gunn, *Scotland and Beyond; the Families of Donald Gunn (Tormsdale) and John Gunn (Dalnaha, Strathmore and Braehour)*

²⁷⁸ Arthur married at the Scots Church in Lydiard Street on 3 December 1901 when aged 23 years old so suggesting he was at home during Donald's lifetime

²⁷⁹ For example, page 5, 'The Ballarat Star' 4 September 1895.

²⁸⁰ Certificate of Death: Vic 1901 24552: 14 February 1901 at Lydiard Street, City of Ballarat, Donald Gunn, 68, insurance agent of broncho pneumonia, cardiac disease and asthma, duration about 3 months...

²⁸¹ See Chapter 9, Geoffrey Blainey, *Our Side of the Country: the Story of Victoria*.

²⁸² Page 4, 'The Ballarat Star' 6 February 1901.

²⁸³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1901 253; page 6, 'The Ballarat Courier', Friday 15 Feb 1901, on the 14th February, at 185 Lydiard Street, Donald Gunn, aged 68 years.

²⁸⁴ Page 5, 'The Ballarat Star' 15 February 1901.

²⁸⁵ Ballarat Old Cemetery records; Page 4, The Ballarat Courier, 15 February 1901 'the friends of the late Donald Gunn are respectfully informed that his remains will be interred in the old Ballarat Cemetery. The funeral cortege will leave his late residence, 185 Lydiard Street North, on Saturday 16th February at 2 o'clock. Funeral private; Certificate of Death: Vic 1901 24552.'

²⁸⁶ Ballarat Old Cemetery records.

²⁸⁷ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1908 219.

Donald was a major character in the Buninyong and Ballarat areas – he was involved in many Committees and tried to do his best for society. Society also liked him – to restate ‘The Ballarat Star’ - (Donald) *was probably one of the best known men in the district, where he had made hosts of friends by his genial disposition, and the news of his death will be heard of with regret.*²⁸⁸

Donald was one of those friendly men who have real, but local, impact and who was loved by many. Few of us can hope for more.



Donald Gunn's grave at the Old Ballarat Cemetery. It reads –

In Loving Memory
of
Donald Gunn
born at Brawlbin Reay Caithness Scotland
28 March 1832, died 14th Feby 1901
Also his sixth son Hugh
Died 24th June 1879, aged 3 years
His beloved wife
Jane Gunn
born at Hampton Poyle Oxford England
18 Jany 1836, died 14 Feby 1908
And their affectionate friend
Donald Campbell

And on separate plaque below the headstone, see next page - Mary Jane Gunn Died 5th May 1934

²⁸⁸ Page 5, 'The Ballarat Star' 15 February 1901.



The Gunn and Surman plots at the Ballarat Old Cemetery. The left grave commemorates John Watkins Surman (1831 - 1906) and his wife Jessie (Janet Gunn – Donald's sister) (1834-1913), the middle grave is for John Watkins Surman's parents Daniel Surman (1805-1869) and Mary Ann Surman (1811-1894) and their grandson Watkins Surman (1871 –1875). The right grave is for Donald Gunn (1832-1901), his wife Jane Gunn (1836-1908), his sixth son Hugh (1875-1879), his daughter Mary Jane Gunn (1864 -1934) and for their relative Donald Campbell (1840-1885).

Jane SURMAN (41) was born on 18 Jan 1836 in Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire. She died on 14 Feb 1908 in 616 Lydiard St, Ballarat, Vic, at age 72.²⁸⁹ She was buried on 15 Feb 1908 in Old Cemetery Area DN, Sec.14, Lot 5, Ballarat, Vic.²⁹⁰ She appeared on the 1841 Census of Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, in the household of Daniel Surman (270).²⁹¹ She appeared on the 1851 Census of Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, in the household of Daniel Surman (270).²⁹² She emigrated with Daniel Surman (270) circa 1855 to Australia.²⁹³ She was fifty-two years in Victoria.²⁹⁴ She was a teacher²⁹⁵ in Feb 1859 in Buninyong, Vic.²⁹⁶



(Left) Jane Surman (Gunn) with her mother Mary Ann Watkins (Surman) (271) and William Watkins Gunn (33)²⁹⁷ c.1880 (Right) Jane Surman (Gunn)

²⁸⁹ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1908 219.

²⁹⁰ Ballarat Old Cemetery records: Area DN, Sec.14, Lot 5.

²⁹¹ UK Census 06 June 1841: Daniel Surman 35 shoe maker, Mary Surman 30, John Surman 9, Jane Surman 5, Catherine Watkins 60.

²⁹² UK Census 30 March 1851: Hampton Poyle Daniel Surman head married 45 servant b Wokingham, Mary Surman wife married 40 schoolmistress b Oxford, Jane Surman daughter unmarried 15 scholar b Hampton Poyle, Catherine Watkins mother in law, widow 70 b Middlesex, London.

²⁹³ *Unknown newspaper* 'in 1855 he arrived in Victoria with his parents and only sister, the latter being Mrs Gunn, of Doveton Street North'. Letter or email, Dougal Gilmour to Donald Gunn, 8 Apr 1999.

²⁹⁴ *Unknown newspaper* 'In 1855 he arrived in Victoria with his parents and only sister, the latter being Mrs Gunn, of Doveton Street North'; Letter or email, Dougal Gilmour to Donald Gunn, 8 Apr 1999.

²⁹⁵ There was a Surman Common School at Windermere (Cardigan?) sometime in the 1860s-1870s which may be of relevance.

²⁹⁶ Certificate of Marriage; Letter or email, Dougal Gilmour to Donald Gunn, 8 Apr 1999.

²⁹⁷ Note the photographic studio of 'Willetts' is not recorded in *The Mechanical Eye in Australia Photography 1841-1900*.



*Jane Surman (Gunn) (41) with two of her grandchildren, Alexander Donald Gunn (222)
and Angus William Gunn (223) being sons of John Alexander Gunn.
Photographed in August 1904.*



Back; *Donald 1865-1933, Barbara 1870-1941, John Alexander 1860-1910,*
Mary-Jane 1863-1934, Marcus Daniel 1868-1953
 Front; *William Watkins 1861-1935, Donald 1832-1901, Arthur Gilbert 1878-1933,*
Jane (Surman) 1836-1908, Norman 1872-1944
 Very front; *Catherine Alexandrina 1880-1960*

Descendants of Donald Gunn

Donald GUNN 28 Mar 1832 Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, d. 14 Feb 1901 Ballarat, Vic

+**Jane SURMAN** b. 18 Jan 1836 Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, m. 1859 Buninyong, Vic, d. 14 Feb 1908

Ballarat

|— **John Alexander GUNN (Hon.)**²⁹⁸ b. 11 Feb 1860 Buninyong, Vic, d. 21 Sep 1910 Sydney, NSW

|+**Jessie Marie TURNER** b. 1862 Beechworth, Vic, m. 1886 North Brighton, Vic, d. 1925 Randwick, NSW²⁹⁹

| |— **Gladys Emily GUNN** b. 1887 North Brighton, Vic, d. 1968 Melbourne, Vic

| |— **Jessie Jean GUNN** b. 1890 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1891 NSW

| |— **Alexander Donald GUNN** b. 1892 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1956 Melbourne, Vic

| |— **Angus William GUNN** b. 1895 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1926 Perth, WA

|— **William Watkins GUNN** b. 26 Dec 1861 Nr Ballarat, Vic, d. 24 Jun 1935 Crossover, Vic

|+**Margaret Jane BALHARRIE** b. 1860 Perth, Tayside, m. 1891 Bloomfield, Vic, d. 1946

Frankston, Vic

| |— **John William GUNN** b. 1895 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1981 Frankston, Vic

| |— **Jean Margaret GUNN** b. 1896 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1975 Glenhuntly, Vic

| |— **Violet Helen GUNN** b. 1898 Warragul, Vic, d. 1968 Frankston, Vic

| |— **Edith Mary GUNN** b. 1899 Warragul, Vic, d. 1901 Sandringham, Vic

| |— **Marjorie May GUNN** b. 1904 Warragul, Vic, d. 1970 Launching Place, Vic

| |— **Marcus Allan GUNN** b. 1906 Crossover, Vic, d. 1981 Melbourne, Vic

|— **Mary Jane GUNN** b. 18 Jan 1864 Cardigan Nr Ballarat, Vic, d. 5 May 1934 Werribee, Vic

|— **Donald GUNN** b. 20 Nov 1865 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 29 Dec 1933 Crossover, Vic

|+**Amy Agnes WAREHAM** b. Oct 1862 Cheshire, m. 1922 Middle Park, Vic, d. 1939 South

Melbourne Vic

|— **Marcus Daniel GUNN** b. 11 May 1868 Buninyong, Vic, d. 1 Dec 1952 South Yarra, Vic

|+**Mary Jane CHENHALL**³⁰⁰ b. 1873 Chiltern, Vic, m. 1903 Corowa, NSW, d. 1941 Melbourne,

Vic

| |— **Keith Lindsay GUNN** b. 1904 Corowa, NSW, d. 1967 Melbourne, Vic

| |— **Norma Mary GUNN** b. 1907 Corowa, NSW, d. 1971 Melbourne, Vic

|— **Barbara GUNN** b. 20 Jun 1870 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 17 Jul 1941 Werribee, Vic

|+**Isaac PADGETT** b. 1867 Mount Cole, Vic, m. 1899 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1937 Werribee, Vic

| |— **Barbara Gunn PADGETT** b. 1901 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1960

| |— **Norman Gunn PADGETT** b. 1903 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1952 Princhester, Qld

| |— **Jean Gunn PADGETT** b. 1913 Vic, d. 2002

|— **Norman GUNN** b. 11 May 1872 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 1944 Williamstown, Vic

|— **Hugh GUNN** b. 28 Oct 1875 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 24 Jun 1879 Burrumbeet, Vic

|— **Arthur Gilbert GUNN** b. 19 May 1878 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 18 Jun 1933 Ivanhoe, Vic

|+**Louisa Maud Miriam RETALLICK** b. 1875 Naseby, Otago, m. 1901 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1959

Elsternwick, Vic

| |— **Malcolm Donald GUNN** b. 1903 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1961 Heidelberg, Vic

²⁹⁸ See next biography.

²⁹⁹ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/16209653?searchTerm=Gunn> for her funeral notice.

³⁰⁰ Her brother was W.T. Chenhall M.D., M.B. B.S. F.R.C.S. who was a notable Sydney surgeon until his death in 1923. See <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/16112528?searchTerm=Gunn>

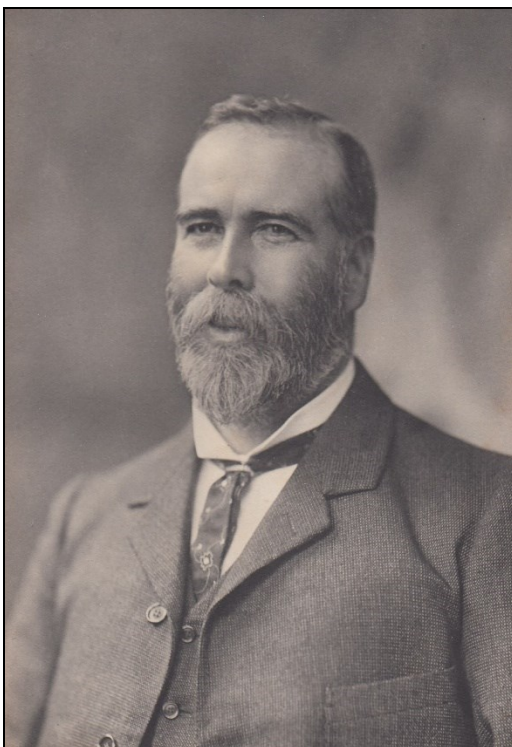
- **Kenneth Douglas GUNN** b. 1905 Kalgoorlie, WA, d. 1951 Longreach, Qld
- **Angus Norman GUNN** b. 1912 Kalgoorlie, WA, d. 1994 Caringbah, NSW
- **Colin GUNN** b. 1915 Ballarat, Vic, d. 1916 Ballarat, Vic
- **Catherine Alexandrina GUNN** b. 13 Sep 1880 Burrumbeet, Vic, d. 13 Aug 1960 Ormond, Vic

Children of Donald Gunn of Brawlbins & Ballarat (3) and Jane Surman (41) were as follows:

1. John Alexander GUNN (Hon.)

Hon. John Alexander Gunn (32) New South Wales, Australia, 1860-1910 being son of Donald Gunn of Brawlbins and Ballarat.

*This life was first published in 'The Ballarat Historian vol.1, No.10 September 1983'
with later alterations.*



J. A. Gunn 1906.

John Alexander Gunn was born at Buninyong, near Ballarat in the state of Victoria, Australia on 11 February 1860. His father was Donald (1832-1901) who had emigrated to Australia (probably in December 1854) and who had then settled near Ballarat which was then in the throes of a gold rush. Donald was a Councillor of the Shire of Ballarat for two periods early in J.A.'s life – 30 August 1865 until 10 June 1867 and 15 August 1870 until 12 October 1874. For the period 11 November 1872 until 12 October 1874, he was President of the Shire. Donald was also Foundation Secretary of the first Highland Society in Victoria – namely The Buninyong Highland Society which was established in 1858. (The first Melbourne society was established in 1861 and the Victorian society was established in 1864.) Donald's wife was Jane Surman of Oxford who was born on 18 January 1836. Donald's mother was Barbara (1810-1844) who was the second child of Donald the sennachie (1770-1861), the ongoing Clan Gunn Chief line.

Little is known of the early years of J.A.'s life bar that his parents' home "Burrumbeet" was becoming more crowded—by the time he left it in 1878 to be a jackaroo at South Yalgogrin station near

Ardlethan, New South Wales; he had six brothers and two sisters. One more sister, Catherine, was born in 1880 which was two years after J.A. had left home to drive cattle to Yalgogrin station.

In 1886 J.A. was promoted to the position of manager of the station, before this he had been the overseer. The station was then owned by the major Australian pastoral firm of Goldsborough, Mort and Company. Also, in this year, on 8 June³⁰¹ he married Jessie Maria Turner at Nithsdale, North Brighton in Melbourne being her parents' home. Jessie was born at Beechworth in Victoria which was then a small gold-mining, rural service town near the Victorian Alps. Her father, William, was born at Kirkconnell, Scotland and her mother Maria Reinhardt was born at Hessen Cassell in Germany. William was a major player in the banking industry in the Victorian Land Boom years.³⁰² They were always much in love and Jessie had a major role in their marriage—she kept all of J.A.'s laboratory records and fought on his behalf for many years to try and gain recognition for J.A.'s scientific and public works after his comparatively early death.



Nithsdale, 316 St. Kilda Street, North Brighton, Victoria, Australia, 2007.

*Nithsdale, in the 1880s, was occupied and most probably owned by
Jessie Marie Turner's father, William Turner.*

Sometime between 1878 and 1888 family stories suggest JA wrote a novel called *The Conargo Blacks*. The Conargo region is near Wagga Wagga. His descendants do not have a copy, nor does any Australian library.

With the acceptance of the managerial position J.A.'s scientific instincts came to prominence. In 1888 J.A. rode in a Yalgogrin paddock with Marcus Daniel, one of his younger brothers. They saw sheep dead in what was a fine season. Initially they thought it was due to poison but it was due to anthrax. This was not unlikely as in 1885-1886 the area immediately around Yalgogrin, which is the Merool district of the Northern Riverina, was devastated by the disease. One could lose half of one's sheep a

³⁰¹ *The Argus* 12 June 1886, page 1. They were married by the Rev Hay, at Nithsdale.

³⁰² See Alastair Gunn *William Turner 1831-1919; Selected Writings* at <https://www.lulu.com/shop/alastair-gunn/william-turner-1831-1919-selected-writings/hardcover/product-15213887.html?page=1&pageSize=4>

year and all sheep regions of Australia were being attacked. This was despite Pasteur discovering a vaccine in France in 1881.

Pasteur's vaccine, though, was inappropriate for Australian conditions—he demanded £38,000 for its use and it needed to be kept cool and injected twice, fourteen days apart. Australia had a small population so could not afford that amount of money. The summers were hot so the vaccine was not reliable and it was very difficult and quite expensive to round up stock twice for injections.

By the 1890s anthrax was rampant throughout the Australian colonies and only rarely would natural increases make up for losses caused by the disease. As a consequence, the quality of most flocks was declining. Anthrax is a particularly nasty disease in that the better the season the worse is the anthrax. J.A. had many reasons to experiment. In 1892 Yalgogrin consisted of 129,000 acres and ran 26,600 sheep, 34 horse and 41 cattle – Goldsborough, Mort and Co. also owned many other properties.

Leslie W. Devlin, who lived at Junee, had tested Pasteur's vaccine in earlier years and he and J.A. were to become close friends. At Yalgogrin J.A. established a laboratory in which he attempted to conquer anthrax³⁰³ - it included a huge boiling down vat and a great brick chimney. Initially he used Devlin's notes which included some from Pasteur. (There is an apocryphal family story that J.A. locked himself in a room for four months and allowed no-one in and did not exit whilst he learnt adequate French to read Pasteur's notes; this I do not believe as his wife was fluent in French and helped her husband with the experiments.³⁰⁴) J.A. boiled down old sheep until he gained a clear solution then, using a converted chicken brooder which is now held at the Glenfield Veterinary Research Station, he introduced the anthrax culture. By the 1893-1894 summer J.A. had created his own vaccine but it was still double dose like Pasteur's – it was used, though, to inoculate over half a million sheep in that season.

The serum did not keep well. Initially he tried to get Devlin to help him increase the longevity of the serum but he was not successful. John McGarvie Smith was then approached and within days the keeping quality of the serum was markedly improved. McGarvie Smith had previously worked on snake venene and there is a story that he used to get snake collectors to release all their snakes into one room and they would then have to accept McGarvie Smith's price or attempt to recapture all their stock.³⁰⁵ He had also been a metallurgist. McGarvie Smith was a questionable character.³⁰⁶ J.A. and McGarvie Smith succeeded in developing a single dose serum. This, basically, saved the Australian livestock industry.

McGarvie Smith expected and gained a partnership with J.A. for the production of the serum even though he had been involved with the research for a short time whereas J.A. had worked on it for years. J.A. was not happy about this – he talked it over with family and friends for some days but he had no alternative as McGarvie Smith knew the formula.³⁰⁷ The partnership was to greatly prosper financially but in human terms it was a disaster that got worse. Under the terms of the partnership each was to maintain a laboratory – McGarvie Smith was to vaccinate north of Sydney and J.A. was to vaccinate south of Sydney and in Victoria. The partnership was entered into in April 1895.

³⁰³ J. A. Gunn applied for permission to keep microbes and inoculate animals in December 1893 and nothing equivalent can be found for McGarvie Smith. *The Sydney Morning Herald* 8 December 1893, page 7.

³⁰⁴ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15646852?searchTerm=Gunn>

³⁰⁵ Quoted in R. Webster, *Bygones and Beyond*, p.88.

³⁰⁶ See chapter 6 of Peter Symes *Opportunity Makes the Man: The Labours of John Alexander Gunn*.

³⁰⁷ Quoted in R. Webster, *Bygones and Beyond*, p.87.

J.A. was to write of the immediate seasons that followed that

... last season we inoculated over a million sheep with one inoculation, and though this was the first season of its use ... less than 10 per cent had to receive the second inoculation to render them absolutely immune; and this season, as we are more and more perfecting the material, out of another million not 2 per cent required a second vaccination... (The) President of the New South Wales Board of Health stated that vaccine under the most favourable circumstances killed 5 per cent of the sheep treated; he undoubtedly referred to the published results of Pasteur's process as under no circumstances whatever will McGarvie Smith and Gunn's vaccine kill a sheep... (and we) have offered to give £1000 to the charities of Sydney if he can produce proof of any deaths having been caused by it out of the 3,750,000 sheep treated by us.³⁰⁸

The challenge was never taken up: Pasteur's vaccine was now irrelevant as a cheap and foolproof method was now available.

J.A. continued to work for Goldsbrough, Mort and Co. as well as working on the vaccine. In 1895 he was made a superintendent for all stations owned by the company in Southern New South Wales. This was as well as managing Yalgogrin. He was to continue being a manager and a superintendent until he resigned from the company in 1905. J.A. also had become a Justice of the Peace in 1896.

In 1897 J.A. moved from Yalgogrin to Borambola station which abuts the Murrumbidgee River, eighteen miles from Wagga Wagga. Sidney and Beatrice Webb visited him there. They wrote of their 1898 visit that J.A. and his

...family were already at lunch when we arrived about 12.30, the party consisting of the husband and wife, an unmarried sister, the book-keeper and a young jackaroo or "colonial experience" young man, together with various youngsters of all sizes and both sexes; later on a travelling school inspector and his friend drove up and joined the party in the usual free and easy Australian fashion. The meal was a scrummy mixture of mutton, tea, jam and buns, wire covers protecting some of the eatables from the depredations of the flies that swarmed through the room – (the Australians have not yet tumbled to wire netting over doorways and windows characteristic of the fly devastated districts of America). Our host proved to be an unusually interesting man. Australian born, of Scotch extraction, a successful manager of stations in different districts in New South Wales, he has devoted his leisure to a scientific investigation of Anthrax and had invented and patented a vaccine named after him – the Gunn vaccine. Last year he had vaccinated over one million sheep, receiving from 1½ d. to 2d. for each animal and supplying his own operators as well as his own vaccine. He was delighted to show us over his laboratory and glad enough to find someone interested in his hobby. He was a thorough-going individualist, objecting altogether to Government regulation and the necessity of taking out a license for his experimental work – a fine fellow for all that – hard working and upright, with that interesting combination of speculative intelligence and a keen commercial instinct which is so characteristic of the best type of Scotchman. For the rest he was a materialist in metaphysic, a reactionary in politics, and an autocrat in the home; keeping his woman kind in due subordination to his own requirements, his sister, a good-natured raw ugly Scotch girl, doing the housekeeping and looking after the children, and his wife, a delicate little bright minded Melbourne lady, devoting her whole time to keeping his laboratory in perfect order and watching, hour by hour, his "incubating" processes. As might have

³⁰⁸ *The Australasian Pastoralists' Review* 15 January 1899.

*been expected, the elderly book-keeper was Scotch and the jackaroo was also Scotch and doubtless if we had enquired we would have discovered that the overseer was Scotch: this Station was in fact a little bit of Scotland transplanted; only religion had disappeared and free and easy colonial materialism had taken its place.*³⁰⁹

And on their return journey the Webbs ‘... again lunched with our friend Mr. Gunn. In the evening we dined with him and Mr. Mouritz at the little inn at Wagga. Our pleasant smoke with them in the evening on the balcony overlooking the main street of Wagga Wagga completed our impression that the “managers” formed one of the most hopeful sections of these Australian colonies.’³¹⁰

It is an interesting picture of J.A. and his family but not, perhaps, entirely accurate. A.A. Phillips, a distinguished Australian critic, was later to write that Beatrice Webb’s “portraits are a little unbalanced by her fondness for finding faults... Nevertheless she has a waspish acumen, and she almost always adds a vividness to our image of these personalities.”³¹¹

At Borambola J.A. was nearly burnt to death in a bushfire. The summer of 1901/1902 was particularly dry and the bushfires were immense. Of the party of three in which he was working to save Borambola pastures one was burnt to death, one survived unharmed and J.A. was burnt about the hands³¹². In January 1903 Boer farmer delegates visited the property; ‘which has several miles of frontage to the Murumbidgee and to Tarcutta Creek’.³¹³ Bushfires also reappeared in the summer of 1903-1904 and in these only the Borambola homestead was left untouched. The local newspaper was stunned and believed that Borambola was the best protected property in the district.

Increasingly J.A. was leaving the Wagga Wagga area and generally in connection with his own business: he often visited Sydney where he stayed at the Hotel Metropole, and he regularly visited Melbourne (even being knocked unconscious by a tram when he was there in 1903.) J.A. was finding it increasingly difficult to fulfil all the demands on his time. He decided to employ his brother Marcus Daniel to act as a temporary manager on Borambola from April 1, 1902. Initially J.A. paid the salary from his own wage but the position was ratified with Goldsborough, Mort and Co. and Marcus was made a permanent employee. J.A.’s salary was cut from £350 to £150 to match the salary paid to the new employee.

By mid-1905 J.A. had bought his own property which he called Braehour³¹⁴ (it was previously called Gumly Gumly) and which adjoined the Borambola station. In August of this year he was to refer to himself as a “grazier residing at Braehour., a Bacteriologist and Station Inspector.”³¹⁵ Increasingly he

³⁰⁹ ed. A.G.Austin, *The Webbs' Australian Diary 1898*, pp.58-60. The two extracts are used with the kind permission of the copyright holders The London School of Economics and Political Science and the publishers Pitman Publishing Pty. Ltd..

³¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 61.

³¹¹ A.A. Phillips, *Responses: Selected Writings*, "A Lady among the Yahoos," p.138 used with permission of the author.

³¹² *The Sydney Morning Herald* 30 December 1901, page 8) reports Mr J.A. Gunn, manager of Borambola, with his brother Norman Gunn, and three station hands, were watching the river for the anticipated crossing of the flames. About 4 p.m. the grass took fire by a point close to them. An attempt was immediately to suppress the outbreak, and for a time it appeared as if their efforts would be successful. The wind suddenly changed, and the men were trapped. Mr. Gunn shouted to the others to follow him and dashed through the flames. It was a frightful experience and those few awful moments are not likely to be forgotten by the unfortunate men... All with the exception of a young man named Frank Curley reached the break, but it appears Curley tried to avoid the flames by making a detour, and in doing so met a horrible death. His charred body was discovered some time later...Mr J.A. Gunn, the manager, also had his hands rather severely burnt...A futile effort was made to save their horses which had been tied up, but three were roasted to death and the other three had eventually to be destroyed...’.

³¹³ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/14521956?searchTerm=Gunn> being for ‘The Sydney Morning Herald’ 15 January 1903, page 6. The confluence with the Murumbidgee is about six kilometres south of Oura in the Riverina area of NSW.

³¹⁴ <http://www.beleura.org.au/History.htm> for information about a later owner of Braehour and <http://adbonline.anu.edu.au/biogs/A120184b.htm>

³¹⁵ Letter, August 1905, Deposit 55, A.N.U. archives.

was leading the life of a wealthy pastoralist – his sons finished their schooling boarding at the leading rural Presbyterian school of Victoria namely Geelong College; he had become a member of various rural pressure groups;³¹⁶ he had acquired property ranging from at least four houses in Sydney to land outside Geelong and, in particular, in 1908 he was appointed Chairman of the Council of Advice on Rabbit Extermination³¹⁷. This occurred to a large extent because of his work at Yalgogrin on a chicken cholera virus³¹⁸ with which he inoculated rabbits. This disease became known as the “Yalgogrin disease” and was a forerunner of the myxomatosis control of rabbits—the disease also spread to France where it was known as “the Australian disease.”

Relationships with McGarvie Smith had not improved. From late 1905 on letters to McGarvie Smith were going via J.A.’s solicitor – on November 12, 1906 J.A. wrote about McGarvie Smith that “the man is a devil neither more nor less and a mad one at that but with the cunning of the devil himself.”³¹⁹ In 1907 J.A. was writing to the Tax Commissioners explaining why he sent in an incomplete return - his partner was not providing him with full financial information. (Interestingly, when the information did come, it seems that J.A.’s income for the 1907 financial year was £3100—an average income at this time could not have been much over £100.) The partnership was brought to arbitration in July 1907 and it still required an arbitrator’s services when J.A. died. When the figures were produced for the arbitrator it was shown that J.A. had vaccinated nearly 2,000,000 more sheep than McGarvie Smith at a cost of more than £50 per 100,000 sheep less than McGarvie Smith. Over 13,000,000 sheep had been vaccinated at this time as had sundry other stock.

In many respects the public career of J.A. culminated in his appointment to the Upper House of the New South Wales parliament on 10 July, 1908. As a Member of the Legislative Council J.A. was in a position to exert even more influence³²⁰ over rural life than he had already, especially as then an M.L.C. although not paid was appointed for life. J.A. was, though, a Liberal Party³²¹ nominee. He tried to help the rural community by taking a major part on a Closer Settlement Bill in 1909, he was on a select committee for a new Sydney abattoir and he tried to improve rolling stock to rural areas. General ill-health was, though, restricting him. He was a regular attender for the 1908 and 1909 sittings but J.A. attended only four times in 1910 before being given leave of absence in August 1910. J.A. died in Sydney on the 21st September 1910³²² and was buried in the Presbyterian section of the Rookwood cemetery. His wife (Jessie) and three children (Gladys, Alexander and Angus) succeeded him. A fourth child (Jessie) was buried at Yalgogrin in 1891.

The disagreements with McGarvie Smith³²³, though, were to continue³²⁴. Increasingly McGarvie Smith was to claim most responsibility for the vaccine—he even donated £10,000 to the government for the

³¹⁶ Before 1897 J.A. was Chairman of the Narrandera Pastures Protection Board. By his death he had been Chairman of the Wagga Wagga P.P.B., Chairman of the P.P.B. Council of Advice in Sydney, a member of the Kyeamba Shire Council, Vice President of the Murrumbidgee Pastoral and Agricultural Association and a member of the Council of the Stockowners’ Association of N.S.W.. By 1902 he was a member of the Taxpayers’ Union <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/14453128?searchTerm=Gunn>. In 1905 he was a member of the Murrumbidgee Fish and Game Protection and Anglers’ Society <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/14713190?searchTerm=Gunn>

³¹⁷ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/14784643?searchTerm=Gunn> and

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/14845100?searchTerm=Gunn>

³¹⁸ See *The Sydney Morning Herald*, page 6 8 April 1908.

³¹⁹ Letter to lawyer, 12 November 1906, Deposit 55, A.N.U. archives.

³²⁰ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15070625?searchTerm=Gunn> for a report on one of his activities.

³²¹ He was, though, like most of his class and time, an Anglophile. See ‘The Mercury’ 2 September 1908

³²² <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15165918?searchTerm=Gunn> for the burial notice and chief mourners.

³²³ *The Sydney Morning Herald* of 3 July 1896 gives the background to McGarvie Smith’s assorted experiments (photography, electricity, assaying, originally a chronometer maker, snake poison...)

³²⁴ ‘Jim Cunningham and other neighbours, who had no doubts at all as to who was mainly responsible for the final discovery, bitterly resented the way in which Gunn’s share in it was overlooked.’ P. 89, Rob Webster, *Bygones and Beyond*. And

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15652008?searchTerm=Gunn>. And

creation of a McGarvie Smith Institute which was to control the manufacture and use of the vaccine. This Institute was opened in 1918. Jessie³²⁵, on behalf of J.A.'s executors, had already attempted to donate the formula³²⁶ to the State Government however this offer was only accepted after McGarvie Smith's. When the Glenfield Veterinary Research Station was opened in 1923 one wing was to become the Gunn wing³²⁷ to commemorate Jessie's 1918 gift. (The only condition on the gift was that J.A.'s name be associated with it.) The McGarvie Smith Institute still exists and there was a wooden plaque over one door at Glenfield commemorating J.A.. The State Cabinet was involved in the McGarvie Smith – Gunn dispute in 1918—one newspaper was even headed “Anthrax vaccines – manacled the Government.”³²⁸ The dispute with McGarvie Smith was never satisfactorily resolved—J.A. believed that “McGarvie Smith is simply green with jealousy and hatred.”³²⁹ If so, he hated J.A. for a long time.

J.A. was a man of strong character and major achievements: he was dedicated to science, pastoral work and his family. He was exceptionally hard-working but very popular. He was also a man who achieved much for the Australian pastoral industry—he invented the first mechanical poison-bait layer for rabbit control which was manufactured in Sydney and widely copied; he attempted viral control of rabbits and he stopped anthrax from ruining the Australian livestock industry. He then went on to serve rural Australia from the Parliament of New South Wales. John Alexander Gunn was one of many Australians who made large contributions to a ‘young’ country with unfortunately little lasting recognition.³³⁰

His will valued his estate - £2758 in Victoria and £31,906 in New South Wales. £34,664 in 1911 is worth approximately \$7,000,000 in 2024.³³¹ This may not seem a lot in today's terms but such an amount would have employed 35,000 factory workers / lower white-collar males in 1910.³³² That's a great achievement for a person who started with nothing but intelligence and drive...

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15648133?searchTerm=Gunn>. And

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/16136760?searchTerm=Gunn>

³²⁵ Jessie continued to run Braehour for some years; for example it was reported in *The Argus* 27 December 1916 that one of the haystacks was hit by lightning and destroyed. It was worth £100. <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/1623825?searchTerm=Gunn>

³²⁶ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15806715?searchTerm=Gunn> and

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/1754029?searchTerm=Gunn>

³²⁷ *The Sydney Morning Herald* 3 November 1923 page 15,

³²⁸ *Daily Telegraph* 25 October 1918.

³²⁹ Letter to lawyer, July 1908, Deposit 55, A.N.U. archives.

³³⁰ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15178029?searchTerm=Gunn> or

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/10477323?searchTerm=Gunn> for a summary of his will. For further information see the major biography of John Alexander Gunn published in 2024 – *Opportunity Makes the Man; The Labours of John Alexander Gunn*, by Peter Symes.

³³¹ Using <https://www.rba.gov.au/calculator/annualPreDecimal.html> and <https://thomblake.com.au/secondary/hisdata/calculate.php>

³³² See <https://guides.slv.vic.gov.au/whatitcost/earnings>

M'GARVIE-SMITH & GUNN'S
Anthrax Vaccine.

Approved of and used by the Governments of New South Wales,
Victoria, and New Caledonia.

PROTECTION BY ONE INOCULATION.
Over Ten Million Sheep and Cattle Successfully Treated.

SEASON, 1906-1907.

MINIMUM RATES: Sheep, 1½d.; Cattle, 6d. per head.

Special Discounts on Lots of 20,000 and over
(Belonging to one Owner).

TERMS—CASH on COMPLETION OF INOCULATION.

The business carried on under the name of GUNN'S VACCINE being merged into the above, and the Vaccine being now manufactured with great improvements introduced by Mr. J. M'GARVIE-SMITH. The difficulty of carriage being overcome by the new process, uniformity of results is assured.

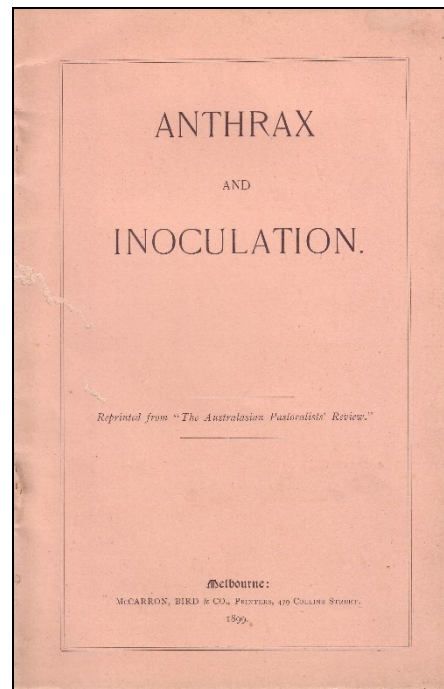
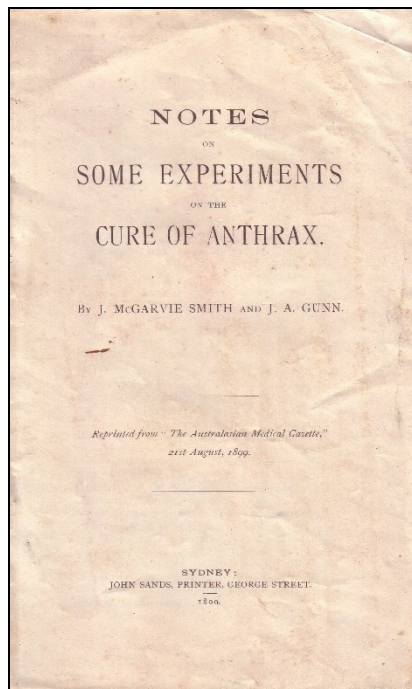
The Firm issue Certificates, approved of by the Stock Department of Victoria, to owners of stock vaccinated by them in New South Wales, which acts as a passport for such stock to cross the border into Victoria or into New Caledonia during the Anthrax Season. Such Certificates remain operative for twelve months from date of vaccination.

Owing to the great difficulty in preparing a sufficient supply of tested *Single Vaccine* during the rush of the Anthrax Season, the Firm wish it to be understood that, while giving owners the benefit of this process whenever practicable, they reserve the right to give two inoculations when necessary, the scale of rates being the same for either *single* or *double* inoculations. The Vaccine in all cases being administered by their thoroughly trained operators; owners finding and paying catchers.

References will be given on application to the owners of over eleven million five hundred thousand Sheep and Cattle successfully treated by the improved process.

We have much pleasure in stating that the giving protection by *one inoculation* introduced by our Mr. J. M'GARVIE-SMITH has, since its introduction, been successfully used over 10,500,000 (ten million five hundred thousand) Sheep and Cattle.

Full Particulars on Application to
J. M'GARVIE-SMITH, Denison Street, Woollahra, Sydney,
or J. A. GUNN, Braeshour, Wagga Wagga.



‘Mr Gunn always strongly opposed the use of poisons for dealing with the rabbits. ‘If this practice is persisted in,’ he says, ‘the eventual effect will be the entire destruction of our useful birds, and after that we shall have plagues of insects which will be far more ruinous to rural interests than even the rabbit’”

The Sydney Morning Herald, 26 November 1913



The original J.A. Gunn microscope is in the family's ownership, 2007. A Carl Zeiss Jena 12213 model.



J. A. Gunn

Children of John Alexander Gunn (Hon.) (32) and Jessie Marie Turner (104) were:



Gladys Emily Gunn

1.1 Gladys Emily GUNN (225) was born on 31 May 1887 in Nithsdale, North Brighton, Vic.³³³ She was christened on 05 Jul 1887 in Nithsdale. She married Frank Lupton (224) in Vic. She died on 09 Jun 1968 in Melbourne, Vic, at age 81.³³⁴ It appears they ‘separated’ after World War 2. She was not in her father’s will; one notes her husband was a Catholic. One daughter. Frank LUPTON (224) 1885-1961 mainly lived in Wagga Wagga, NSW.³³⁵



Nithsdale, 316 St. Kilda Street, North Brighton, Victoria, Australia, 2007.

Nithsdale, in the 1880s, was occupied and probably owned by Jessie Marie Turner’s father, William Turner. At this time mothers-to-be returned to the parental home.

³³³ Australia Birth Index 1788-1922.

³³⁴ Two children; Jean Frances Lupton b. 1914 (married K.B. Moore at Toorak 1939) and Ralph Skirrow Lupton d. 1959 Penrith NSW, who married twice. First to Margaret Mary Constance Unknown in Wagga Wagga in 1938, then to Eileen May Unknown in Parramatta in 1948. In 1954 he was in the Parramatta Courts (*SMH*, page 11, 9 Dec 1954). Jean Frances may have had a daughter; K. B. Moore had a daughter called Sue Moore.

³³⁵ Australia Birth Index 1788-1922.

1.2 Jessie Jean GUNN (221) was born on 05 Mar 1890 in 109 Doveton Street, Ballarat, Vic.³³⁶ She died on 06 Jun 1891 in Yalgogrin Station, NSW, at age 1. She was buried on 07 Jun 1891 in Yalgogrin Station³³⁷, NSW; a lonely grave.

1.3 Alexander Donald GUNN (222) was born on 13 May 1892 in 32 Brougham St, Ballarat, Vic.³³⁸ After leaving school he continued with the Cadets at Wagga Wagga.



Alexander Donald Gunn

He married Helen Ramsay³³⁹ (226), daughter of William Ramsay³⁴⁰ (514) and Caroline Maud Seaborne Robinson³⁴¹ (515), on 22 Dec 1914 in Holy Trinity Church, Kew, Vic.³⁴² He enlisted in the Army in August 1915, embarking in November. He initially joined the M.E.F and served at Heliopolis in Egypt (and elsewhere) then served in France in 1916 and was promoted to Adjutant, then Captain. He was mentioned in dispatches January 1918 and served to the end of the war, returning to Australia in 1919³⁴³. He and Helen Ramsay (226) were divorced in 1924; the newspaper report³⁴⁴ says he was living in Sunshine as a dairy farmer at that time. He developed 'nerves' from the war – probably P.T.S.D. It is possible that time apart, during the war, contributed to the divorce. He married Joan White Larkin (665) circa 1930 in Vic. He (probably) lived at 34 Tester Grove Caulfield in 1935. He died on 03 Nov 1956 in Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, Vic, at age 64. He was educated between 1908 and 1910 in Geelong College, Geelong, Vic (and before that at

³³⁶ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1890 9535.

³³⁷ Burial: Ref; NSAG B7/11/131 p153.

³³⁸ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1892 9956.

³³⁹ The musical symphonic work 'Australia' by the German composer Dr von Keussler is dedicated to her. He opened an exhibition of her paintings at the International Club in October 1935 where those in attendance included Max Meldrum.

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/11774920?searchTerm=Gunn>

³⁴⁰ William Ramsay was a pioneer Melbourne Bookseller; see page 63 *The Early Australian Booksellers*. Interestingly 'The Argus' of 3 December 1920, page 6, lists, at the funeral of the notable banker, cultural authority and conservative historian Henry Gyles Turner, William Ramsay as a nephew, A. D. Gunn as a relative, and Gresham Robinson is placed in the 'family' list of mourners. The parents of William Ramsay were Charles Ramsay and Helen Turner; the wife of Henry Gyles Turner was Helen Ramsay. All were from London. The world of the Melbourne elite was small. Martha Turner, a sister of Henry Gyles Turner, was the Minister of the Unitarian Church in Melbourne and a notable supporter of women's causes. It is possible that she was the first female Minister of religion in the British Commonwealth. <http://web.ukonline.co.uk/m.gratton/Names/Martha.htm>

³⁴¹ The Robinsons were very involved with education, most visibly through Gresham Robinson—Caroline's uncle—who, amongst other achievements was the foundation Principal of Essendon Grammar School in Victoria. Dr. George A. A. Robinson was heavily involved with the Williamstown Hospital and later head of the company Ramsay Surgical.

⁵¹⁷ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1914 9671; 'The Argus' page 1, 5 January 1915

³⁴³ Derived from the war records held by the National Archives of Australia.

³⁴⁴ *The Argus*, page 12, 7 November 1924.

Carlton College where his uncle, Gresham Robinson, was Headmaster. Gresham Robinson later started Essendon Grammar School, a major private school in Victoria.).³⁴⁵ He was bow of the 1st VIII in 1910 for Geelong College.³⁴⁶ He was a grazier, perhaps in the sense that he helped run the farm after his father's death. He was a representative for Golden Fleece Oil Company circa 1930. I suspect he spent all the money he inherited from his father.

Helen RAMSAY (226) was born on 25 Jan 1893 in Brighton, Vic. She died in 1966 in the Repatriation Hospital, Heidelberg, Vic. She was wealthy in her own right – her father William Ramsay established a major medical bookselling firm in Melbourne 'Ramsay Surgical.'

Joan White LARKIN (665) was born on 05 Sep 1910. She died in 1980 in Vic.

1.4 Angus William GUNN (223) was born on 23 May 1895 in Ballarat, Vic.³⁴⁷ He was christened on 23 Jun 1895 in Elsternwick, Vic. He won the Senior Boarders' Scripture Prize at Carlton College in 1908.



*Angus William Gunn*³⁴⁸

He married Eliza Margaret McKenzie (227), daughter of David Lowe McKenzie (2495), on 03 Apr 1919 in Randwick, NSW. He died on 14 Oct 1926 in the Palace Hotel or Perth Hospital, Perth, WA, at age 31, suicide.³⁴⁹ I suspect the suicide was because he spent all the money left to him in his

³⁴⁵ Letter from Paul Mishura to Donald Gunn, 15 Sep 1998.

³⁴⁶ Page 162, ed. B.R. Keith, *The Geelong College 1861-1961*. His brother Angus William was also Bow in 1913 and 1914.

³⁴⁷ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1895 9056.

³⁴⁸ The latter picture being from the *Sunday Times*, Perth, 24 October 1926

³⁴⁹ *Melbourne Argus*, 15 Oct 1926 p. 8 Insurance Agent's Suicide. Shoots himself in head. Perth Thursday

father's will. He was educated between 1909 and 1914 at Geelong College, Geelong, Vic. He was bow of 1st VIII in 1913.³⁵⁰ He was the manager of the family sheep station during war between 1915 and 1918 in South Yalgogrin, near Wagga Wagga, NSW. He was an insurance agent for the Life Insurance Company of Australia in Aug 1926 in Perth, WA.

Eliza Margaret MCKENZIE (227)³⁵¹ was born in 1889 in Gundagai, NSW. She died on 29 Mar 1950 in St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst, NSW. She was buried on 31 Mar 1950 in RC Section, Botany, NSW. She was a hotel manageress. Their two children have disappeared from the records. Adopted, perhaps? It is noteworthy she regularly appeared in the society pages of the time – but never with her husband.

Angus William Negus, a young insurance agent, committed suicide this afternoon by shooting himself in the head with a revolver. He walked across the billiard-room at the Palace Hotel into a lavatory, and a few seconds later a revolver shot was heard. He was hurried to the hospital, but died shortly after admittance. Negus, who arrived from the East about 10 months ago, was employed by the Life Insurance Company of Australia;

Melbourne Argus, 30 Oct 1926, p22 'Salesman's Suicide. Perth Friday

A verdict of suicide was given at an inquest into the death of a man who was known in Perth as Arthur William Negus, but who was afterwards found to be Angus William Gunn, formerly managing director of a large firm in Sydney which, subsequently, went into liquidation. Gunn walked into the lavatory at the Palace Hotel on October 14 and shot himself in the head with a revolver.

Evidence was given that Gunn had stated he came from Sydney in consequence of domestic troubles. He seemed to think that a maintenance order was being made against him and that if his wife knew that he was in Perth she would have him imprisoned. He was a travelling salesman up to two months ago and, although ordinarily a moderate drinker, he indulged heavily at times, and had threatened to commit suicide. He admitted to a friend that he had pawned goods belonging to the firm for which he was travelling.' We have no record of his involvement with any Sydney firm; the social pages of Sydney newspapers record his wife attending events by herself.

³⁵⁰ Page 162 ff., ed. B.R. Keith, *The Geelong College 1861-1961*.

³⁵¹ Certificate of Death: NSW 1950 007066.

2. William Watkins GUNN



William Watkins Gunn

William Watkins GUNN (33) was born on 26 Dec 1861 in Cardigan, Nr Ballarat, Vic.³⁵² He married Margaret Jane Balharrie (42), daughter of John Balharrie (1314) and Jane Carmichael (1315), on 24 Jun 1891 in Bloomfield, Vic.³⁵³ He died on 24 Jun 1935 in Crossover, Vic, at age 73.³⁵⁴ He was buried

³⁵² Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1862 467.

³⁵³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1891 3581.

³⁵⁴ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1935 15057; *Unknown newspaper*, 'On the 24th June, at Crossover, William Watkins, beloved husband of Margaret Jane, and loving father of John, Jean (Mrs Milner), Violet (Mrs Wadeson), Edith (deceased), Marjorie and Allan, aged 73 years'; *The Warragul Gazette*, 'The death occurred at Crossover on Monday of William Watkins Gunn, at the age of 73 years. He commenced a sawmilling business at Crossover more than 40 years ago. He leaves a widow, two sons and three daughters'; *The Warragul Gazette*, 'W.W. Gunn Passing of a Pioneer One of the oldest pioneers in the timber industry of Gippsland in the person of Mr W.W. Gunn, of Crossover and Noojee, passed away last week, and the 'natural' body was placed to rest in the Warragul Cemetery. At the graveside on Wednesday last a number of relatives and friends of the family assembled to pay their last respects to one who had fought a good fight and a strenuous one, in the heavily timbered country of Gippsland. Tangible evidence of the affection and esteem felt for him was seen in the large number of beautiful wreaths which covered the casket. At the funeral which took place at the Warragul Cemetery on Wednesday, the coffin-bearers were:- Messrs A Aldersea, J Parker, J Byrnes, N McDougall, F Young and R Holmes, several of whom were old employees of the firm. The burial service was read by the Rev. Neil McDonald, of the Presbyterian Church, and all the arrangements were entrusted to Messrs JA McGilton Pty Ltd. The late Mr Gunn came of a real old Highland family, who emigrated to Australia in the early days. He was born in the Burrumbeet district near Ballarat and came to Gippsland in the very early days about 1884, and engaged in sawmilling in what is now known as Lionel Young's farm. He moved over to Bloomfield, now called Nilma, and later still to Crossover and Noojee. In fact, he was a pioneer of this forest country, over 50 years ago. Notwithstanding his strenuous life and the hard work of handling timber, he enjoyed splendid health for over 70 years and was never happier than when among the giant Eucalypts.

One of the most memorable events of his life was his visit to the Old Highland homeland with the Scottish Delegation (See Part 3.) There he met his cousin, Col. Gunn, a landed proprietor by whom he was introduced to, and enjoyed the hospitality of, many of the notabilities of the North. By his marriage with Miss Balharrie, he became associated with another well-known pioneer family of Gippsland, Cr. Balharrie being her brother. The family consists of two sons and several daughters, John Gunn being the eldest son, is now in charge of the sawmilling business.

on 26 Jun 1935 in Warragul Cemetery, Vic. He was a timber miller with Amoss as partner circa 1888 in Bloomfield (now Nilma), Vic.³⁵⁵ He was a member in 1894 and 1895 of the Cricket Club, Traralgon, Vic.^{356 357} He took out a mining right circa 1895 in Vic.³⁵⁸ (Probably earlier; it is reported on 1 June 1892 that he, Donald Gunn (35), J. Balharrie (probably James Balharrie (1317) b. 1856, brother to Margaret Balharrie) and others had established a gold mining company—‘The South Warragul Gold Mining Company’ with plans to employ 150 miners³⁵⁹. He was a miner in 1904.³⁶⁰ He brought the first car to Crossover district in 1912 in Vic.³⁶¹ He invented a method to destroy submarines in 1915.³⁶²

A man of sterling qualities, strong in his convictions and of the strictest integrity, the deceased pioneer has left behind him a name and character, which will be remembered with affection, by a very large circle of friends’.

³⁵⁵ John William Gunn.

³⁵⁶ Photograph; Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Melbourne, Vic, Group of men belonging to Traralgon Cricket Club
Item No. MSPH-0498.

³⁵⁷ Photograph; Royal Historical Society of Victoria, Group of men belonging to Traralgon Cricket Club
Item No. MSPH-0499.

³⁵⁸ John William Gunn.

³⁵⁹ The Argus, 1 June 1892, page 7.

³⁶⁰ Archive CD Books, *Ballarat and District Directory 1904*, CD-ROM, 2004.

³⁶¹ Dorothy Hunt, *A History of Neerim* : ‘William Watkins Gunn first came to Darnum Gippsland in 1884. He married Margaret Jane Balharrie at Bloomfield in 1891. They settled in Crossover in 1895 and had six children - John, Jean, Violet, Edith, Marjorie and Marcus Allan. They all attended Crossover State School.

William built and operated successful sawmills at Crossover, Shady Creek and districts, employing many men. He built a three foot six inch tramway for transporting the sawn timber from these mills to the rail-head at Crossover.

William brought in the first car to the district in 1912.

In 1921 he took up milling at Noojee, his son John was manager.

During the First World War he invented a method for destroying submarines which was duly adopted by the British Admiralty with considerable success. He attempted to obtain recognition for this invention during a visit to England in 1928 but failed to do so. The Admiralty claimed it their right to commandeer such inventions in wartime. William also had a large interest in goldmining in Crossover and Buchan.

He died in 1945 aged 74 years.

(Typed notes written by Dorothy Margaret Jenkin (nee Milner) for *A History of Neerim*, and held by her in March 1996).

³⁶² Gunn, William Watkins - Power of Attorney from William Watkins Gunn to The Admiralty, 17 Oct 1928; granted to Gunning Francis Plunkett Esq dated 17 October 1928 relating to claim against the Admiralty, prepared by Galbraith & Best, Australia House, Strand W.C.2.

This Power of Attorney is made by me William Watkins Gunn of Crossover in the State of Victoria in the Commonwealth of Australia Saw Miller at present temporarily residing at the Ardmay Hotel Woburn Place in the County of London the seventeenth day of October one thousand nine hundred and twenty eight,

Whereas

(1) I have a claim for Twenty five thousand pounds against the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Admiralty’) in respect of an award or compensation due to me in relation to my having submitted to the Admiralty during the year 1915 a method or methods for destroying or attempting to destroy submarines which were duly adopted by the Admiralty with considerable success

(2) I have for some time past been in England with a view (inter alia) of prosecuting and obtaining a settlement of my said claim but am now compelled to return to Australia

Now this deed witnesseth that I the said William Watkins Gunn hereby appoint Gunning Francis Plunkett of Australia House Strand in the said County of London (hereinafter called ‘the Attorney’) my true and lawful Attorney for me and in my name to do and execute all the following acts deeds and things or any of them that is to say:-

1. To demand sue for and receive from the Admiralty or from such other body liable to pay the same the said sum of twenty five thousand pounds or such other sum for compensation or otherwise as I may be entitled to in respect of my said claim.

2. Upon payment of the same to give a good receipt or discharge for the same.

3. Upon non-payment of the said claim or any part thereof or of any interest due in respect thereof to commence and prosecute all actions and proceedings and use all other expedients for obtaining payment of the same or for damages or compensation in respect thereof or in respect of any express or implied warranty relating thereto or otherwise as fully and effectually to all intents and purposes whatsoever as I myself could have done if personally present and this deed had not been made.

To settle my said claim for such amount and upon such terms and subject to such conditions in all respects as the Attorney may in his absolute discretion think fit and to settle all accounts relating to the premises and refer to arbitration or compromise any disputes actions or proceedings concerning the same and to accept and give a good discharge for any securities or other property in or towards satisfaction of the same.

From time to time to appoint any Attorney or Attorneys under him for any of the purposes aforesaid.

And I the said William Watkins Gunn hereby agree at all times to ratify and confirm whatsoever the said Gunning Francis Plunkett or his said Attorney or Attorneys shall lawfully do or cause to be done in the premises by virtue of this Deed.

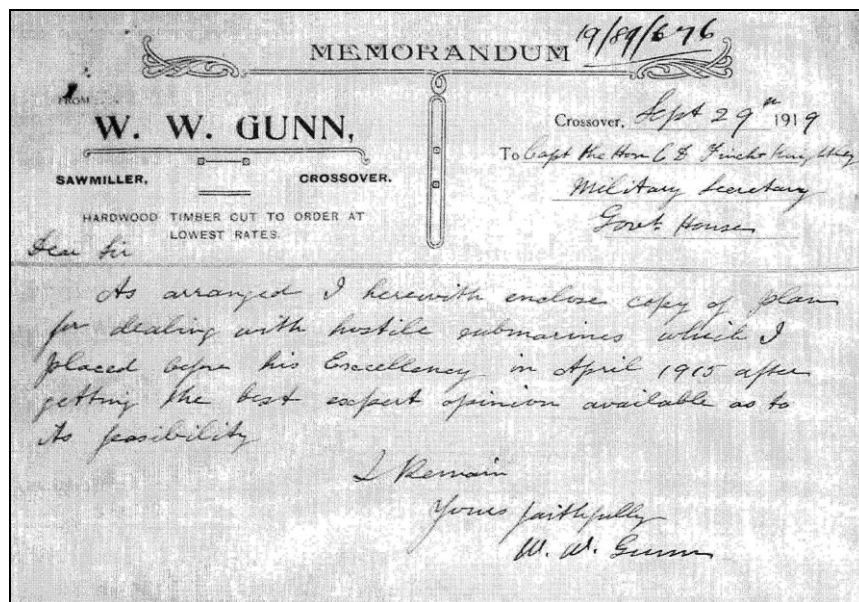
And I declare that the power hereby created shall be irrevocable for the space of one year from the date hereof.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered by the said William Watkins Gunn in the presence of: - F. Maxwell Best Solicitor Australia House Strand London; National Archives of Australia 1919/89/676

(Shown on the following page) Letter from W W Gunn, Sawmiller, Crossover 29 September 1919 to Capt. the Hon. D Finch-Knightley, Military Secretary, Gov’t House

Dear Sir,



W.W. Gunn's 1919 memorandum



William Watkins Gunn

As arranged I herewith enclose copy of plans for dealing with hostile submarines which I placed before his Excellency in April 1915 after getting the best possible expert opinion available as to its feasibility, I remain Yours Faithfully, W.W.Gunn.

Letter from Official Secretary to the Governor General to Mr W.W. Gunn, Crossover dated 18 October 1919

Dear Sir,

With reference to the representation recently submitted by you verbally, on the subject of the proposals which you made in 1915 for dealing with hostile submarines, I desire to inform you that your memoranda were brought to the notice of the Commonwealth Naval authorities who stated, in July 1915, that you had been informed that in the opinion of the Naval Board there was nothing in the proposals which was not perfectly well known. I am communicating with the Navy Department in the matter. Yours faithfully.

William (33) took up saw milling in 1921 in Noojee, Vic.³⁶³ He had a little local legal battle in July 1925 and won³⁶⁴. He was there when George McKenzie (3435) gave details of family genealogy to Marcus Daniel Gunn and himself both being part of the Scottish Delegation on 19 Jun 1928 in Wick Parish, Caithness.³⁶⁵ He wrote to 'The Argus'³⁶⁶ November 28 commending the use of hardwood cases for moving Australian apples as there was some suggestion about not using them; bad news for sawmillers! He has a personal history written by his son, John William Gunn.³⁶⁷ He was interested in nature.³⁶⁸ He is mentioned in *Neerim - A History*.³⁶⁹ There is a Gunn Road at Crossover, presumably named after him (and / or his family). Margaret Jane BALHARRIE (42)³⁷⁰ was born on 27 Dec 1860 in Blairgowrie, Perth, Tayside. She died on 16 May 1946 in Frankston, Vic, at age 85 from cancer. She was buried in Springvale, Vic. She arrived in Melbourne, Vic. in 1862.

Children of William Watkins Gunn (33) and Margaret Jane Balharrie (42) were:

2.1 John William GUNN (133) was born on 28 Feb 1895 in Lydiard St, Ballarat, Vic.³⁷¹ He was baptized on 30 Mar 1895 in Scots Church, Ballarat, Vic, register no. 26.³⁷² He married Jessie Eileen Evans (140) on 13 May 1925 in Vic. He died on 29 Oct 1981 in Frankston, Vic, at age 86 due to a heart issue—on the same day as his brother Marcus (136). John was an engine driver, single in 1917 in Crossover, Gippsland, Vic.³⁷³ He began military service on 09 Nov 1917³⁷⁴ in Melbourne, Vic, as a gunner, service number 39648, next of kin father, William W Gunn.³⁷⁵ He was a saw miller. He began military service again on 17 March 1942 in Sale, Vic, service number V364815, next of kin Jessie Gunn.³⁷⁶ He was discharged 9 October 1945 as a Lance Corporal.

³⁶³ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/10523684> concerns one of WW Gunn's employees. And Letter from Sylvia Bairsto to Donald Gunn, Dec 1996. Norman (Sylvia's father, Norman Gunn Padgett) worked for William Watkins Gunn at Noojee and it was from there that Norman first went to Borneo; John William Gunn.

³⁶⁴ *The Argus* 23 July 1925 <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/2144683?searchTerm=Gunn>

³⁶⁵ See Part 3. Note: It is clear that William & Marcus did not realise, for obvious reasons, the later change from the male to the female line with regards to the Chief of the Clan Gunn. This change has led to confusion, including the misdrawing of 'The Gunns' chart prepared after their return to Australia with copies held by many descendants. It shows all the named ancestors as being of the male line.

³⁶⁶ *The Argus* November 30 1931, page 15.

³⁶⁷ John William Gunn, 'William Watkins Gunn – Jackaroo' on stations mainly around Ballarat eg Mt Eniur (?) and Creilaowne (?) then to Gippsland about 1888 to Bloomfield (now Nilma) timber milling with Amoss as partner. Dissolved partnership then to South of Darnum (Gainsborough). Married Margaret Jane Balharrie.

Land boom burst about 1893 - banks closed. Found Crossover whilst on expedition for gold. Took a milling right at Crossover about 1895 or 6 - built 'Brawlbin.' Bushfires 1898, 1908. Took up Noojee milling about 1921-2. John William married Jessie Eileen Evans 1925. Burnt out 1926, 32, 39. William brought first car to district about 1912.

Goldmine. Brother Donald went to Buchan with Ralph Milner mining - returns were good, while Ralph was in charge. Milner retired and McRae part manager and then Mackieson came in. The family members retired but WW carried on with Mackieson as manager. Quartz reef formation caolinore rich gold. Abandoned about 1917 - got down to sulphides named Mt Tara, turn right before going down to Buchan about 3-4 miles.'

(Held by Dorothy Margaret Jenkin (nee Milner) - Mar 1996).

³⁶⁸ See, for example <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/4108493?searchTerm=Gunn> *The Argus*, 29 August 1930

³⁶⁹ Dorothy Hunt, *A History of Neerim*.

³⁷⁰ *International Genealogical Index (IGI)*.

³⁷¹ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1895 567.

³⁷² *Ballarat BDMs CD.*, CD-ROM).

³⁷³ The AIF Project.

³⁷⁴ The Australian Commonwealth Military Forces record reads: 'Regimental number 39648, Religion Presbyterian, Occupation Engine driver, Address Crossover, Gippsland, Victoria, Marital status Single, Age at embarkation 22, Next of kin Father, W W Gunn, Crossover, Gippsland, Victoria, Enlistment date 9 November 1917. Rank on enlistment Gunner, Unit name Field Artillery Brigade, Reinforcement 35, AWM Embarkation Roll number 13/128/2, Embarkation details Unit embarked from Sydney, New South Wales, on board SS Port Darwin on 30 April 1918, Rank from Nominal Roll Driver, Unit from Nominal Roll 6th Field Artillery Brigade, Fate Returned to Australia 23 September 1919'.

³⁷⁵ National Archives of Australia Series B2455, control symbol Gunn J W, barcode 4380048, born Ballarat; The AIF Project.

³⁷⁶ National Archives of Australia Series B884, barcode V364815, date of birth 28 Feb 1895, Ballarat.

Jessie Eileen EVANS (140) was born on 27 Feb 1895. She died on 03 Dec 1974 in S. Peninsula Hospital, Rosebud, Vic, at age 79. She was a school teacher (teacher record number probably 18031).

2.2 Jean Margaret GUNN (139) was born on 06 Apr 1896 in Lydiard St, Ballarat, Vic.³⁷⁷ She was baptized on 04 May 1896 in Scots Church, Ballarat, Vic; Register number 50.³⁷⁸ She married Harry Milner (137), son of Ralph Edwin Milner (1332) and Ellen Allinson (1333), on 19 Nov 1924 in Vic. She died on 30 Nov 1975 in Glenhuntly, Vic, at age 79 cancer. She was buried on 02 Dec 1975 in Springvale, Vic; cremated.

Harry MILNER (137) was born on 08 Nov 1891 in Buln Buln, Crossover, Vic.³⁷⁹ He died on 13 Jan 1981 in Linacre Hospital, Hampton, Vic, at age 89.³⁸⁰ He was cremated on 15 Jan 1981 in Springvale, Vic. He was a tram conductor, unmarried in 1915 in Buln Buln, Neerim South, Gippsland, Vic.³⁸¹ He began military service on 07 Apr 1915 in Liverpool, NSW, as a private, next of kin mother, Mrs Ellen Milner, Crossover.³⁸² He served at Beersheba, Palestine, in 1917.

2.3 Violet Helen GUNN (141) was born on 29 May 1898 in Warragul, Vic.³⁸³ She married Reginald Thomas Wadeson (138) on 24 Apr 1924 in Vic. She died on 24 Aug 1968 in Frankston, Vic. at age 70 cancer. Reginald Thomas WADESON (138) was born on 18 Jun 1897 in Diamond Creek, Vic.³⁸⁴ He died on 21 Dec 1950 in Flinders Street Station, Melbourne, Vic, at age 53 heart attack.

2.4 Edith Mary GUNN (134) was born on 13 Oct 1899 in Warragul, Vic.³⁸⁵ She died on 16 Feb 1901 in Sandringham, Vic, at age 1 diphtheria.³⁸⁶

2.5 Marjorie May GUNN (135) was born on 09 Apr 1904 in Warragul, Vic.³⁸⁷ She died on 16 May 1970 in Launching Place, Vic, at age 66 heart attack.

2.6 Marcus Allan GUNN (136) was born on 20 Jul 1906 in Brawlbun, Crossover, Vic.³⁸⁸ He married Grace Frances Stephenson (142) on 18 Sep 1945 in St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, Vic. Licence for solemnization of marriage, no. 6297, she was born in about 1892. He died on 29 Oct 1981 in Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, Vic, at age 75 pneumonia the same day as his brother John (133).³⁸⁹ He was cremated in Springvale, Vic.³⁹⁰ Grace Frances STEPHENSON (142) died in Apr 1980 in Vic.

³⁷⁷ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1896 8449.

³⁷⁸ *Ballarat BDMs CD*.

³⁷⁹ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1892 1689.

³⁸⁰ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1981 01413.

³⁸¹ The AIF Project.

³⁸² The AIF Project.

³⁸³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1898 2271.

³⁸⁴ Leoni Jenkin e-mail to Donald Gunn, 6 May 2005.

³⁸⁵ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1899 30631.

³⁸⁶ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1901 3553.

³⁸⁷ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1904 22056.

³⁸⁸ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1906 22996.

³⁸⁹ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1981 25078.

3. Mary Jane GUNN (34) was born on 18 Jan 1864 in Cardigan Nr Ballarat, Vic.³⁹¹ She died on 05 May 1934 in Braemore, Werribee, Vic, at age 70.³⁹² She was buried on 07 May 1934 in Old Cemetery Area DN Sec.14 Lot 5, Ballarat, Vic.³⁹³ She was on the electoral roll with John Alexander Gunn (Hon.) (32) in 1903 in Borambola Station, NSW.³⁹⁴



³⁹⁰ *The Sun*, Melbourne, 'The funeral today will be private.'

³⁹¹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1864 278.

³⁹² *Unknown newspaper*, 'on the 5th May, at Braemore, Werribee, Mary Jane, beloved eldest daughter of the late Donald and Jane Gunn, formerly of Burrumbeet. Deeply regretted'; Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1934 15340.

³⁹³ Ballarat Old Cemetery records: Area DN Sec.14 Lot 5.

³⁹⁴ Electoral Roll, 1903 Roll lists John Alexander Gunn, Station Manager, Marcus Daniel Gunn, Station Manager, Norman Gunn, Licensed Vaccinator, Mary Jane Gunn, Domestic Duties and Jessie Marie Gunn, Domestic Duties as residing at Borambola Station.

4. Donald GUNN (35) was born on 20 Nov 1865 in Burrumbeet, Vic.³⁹⁵ He was involved with his brother William Watkins Gunn (and others) to an extent in South Warragul.³⁹⁶ He married Amy Agnes Wareham (43), daughter of James Wareham (1697) and Mary Dalton (1114), on 16 Sep 1922 in St Anselms C of E, Middle Park, Vic.³⁹⁷ He died on 29 Dec 1933 in 'The Shack', Crossover, Vic, at age 68 cardiac failure.³⁹⁸ He was buried on 30 Dec 1933 in Warragul, Vic.³⁹⁹ He was with Ralph Milner gold mining circa 1900 in Buchan, Vic.⁴⁰⁰ He was a sawmill employee in 1922.⁴⁰¹



Donald Gunn.

The above photo was taken by 'Aaron Flegetaub School of Photography' which was in Ballarat 1888-1889; Donald was therefore about 24.

Amy Agnes WAREHAM (43)⁴⁰² was born in 1863 in Cheshire.⁴⁰³ She married Francis Gumley (1115) in 1887.⁴⁰⁴ She died in 1933 in Vic.

³⁹⁵ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1865 20736; "William Watkins Gunn;" Certificate of Birth, 1865 Births in the District of Burrumbeet in the Colony of Victoria, 20 Nov 1865, Donald Gunn, father Donald Gunn, farmer 33, mother Jane, 29.

³⁹⁶ *The Argus*, 1 June 1892, page 7.

³⁹⁷ Certificate of Marriage, No. 192 in Register of St Alsems C of E, Middle Park, 1922, BDM 7091 16 September 1922 between Donald Gunn, Bachelor, born Burrumbeet, sawmill employee age 56 of Crossover, and Amy Agnes Gumley, widow since 2 January 1901, 2 children, born Cheshire, England, house duties age 59 of Crossover, father James Walton (deceased), mother Mary (Dalton).

³⁹⁸ *Unknown newspaper*, on the 29th December, at The Shack, Crossover, Donald, beloved husband of Amy, and son of late Donald and Jane Gunn, Burrumbeet; Certificate of Death: 1933 18730: On 29 December 1933 at The Shack, Crossover, Shire of Buln Buln, Donald Gunn, Timber Worker age 68, born Burrumbeet, married at Middle Park at age 56 to Amy Gumley, no issue, father Donald Gunn, Farmer, mother Jane Gunn formerly Surman.

³⁹⁹ Certificate of Death: 1933 18730: On 29 December 1933 at The Shack, Crossover, Shire of Buln Buln, Donald Gunn, Timber Worker age 68, born Burrumbeet, married at Middle Park at age 56 to Amy Gumley, no issue, father Donald Gunn, Farmer, mother Jane Gunn formerly Surman.

⁴⁰⁰ William and brother Donald went to Buchan to mine quartz reef formations with Ralph Milner. Returns were good while Milner was in charge. William stayed under new managers, but Donald (and other family members?) retired. William carried on until the mine was abandoned about 1917. The mine was at Mt Tara, some 3-4 miles from Buchan in East Gippsland.

⁴⁰¹ Certificate of Marriage, No. 192 in Register of St Alsems C of E, Middle Park, 1922.

⁴⁰² Certificate of Marriage, Amy Agnes Gumley, widow since 2 January 1901.

⁴⁰³ Certificate of Marriage, No. 192 in Register of St Alsems C of E, Middle Park, 1922, BDM 7091 16 September 1922 between Donald Gunn, Bachelor, born Burrumbeet, sawmill employee age 56 of Crossover, and Amy Agnes Gumley, widow since 2 January 1901, 2 children, born Cheshire, England, house duties age 59 of Crossover, father James Walton (deceased), mother Mary (Dalton).

⁴⁰⁴ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1887 4462.

5. Marcus Daniel GUNN



Probably Marcus Daniel Gunn (from a portfolio holding all these near images); identified by elimination. Talma Studio operated in the years 1893-1900.

Marcus Daniel GUNN (36) was born on 11 May 1868 in Buninyong, Vic.⁴⁰⁵ He married Mary Jane Chenhall (105), daughter of Nicholas Chenhall (864) and Mary J. Mills (865), on 19 May 1903 in Corowa, NSW.⁴⁰⁶ He died on 01 Dec 1952 in South Yarra, Vic, at age 84.⁴⁰⁷ He was present with his brother John (32) when anthrax ravaged sheep at the Station in 1888.⁴⁰⁸ Marcus (36) was granted a licence to inoculate animals with anthrax vaccine in Aug 1894. He was a temporary manager on Borambola station on 01 Apr 1902. He was on the electoral roll with John Alexander Gunn (Hon.) (32) in 1903 in Borambola Station, NSW.⁴⁰⁹ He was a station master.⁴¹⁰ He was present when George McKenzie (3435) gave details of family genealogy to William Watkins Gunn and Marcus Daniel Gunn of the Scottish Delegation on 19 Jun 1928 in Wick Parish, Caithness.⁴¹¹

⁴⁰⁵ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1868 14645; "William Watkins Gunn."

⁴⁰⁶ Letter or email from Ian M Gunn to Donald Gunn, Mar 1997; Register of BDMS - NSW, 1903 3446.

⁴⁰⁷ *The Sun*, Wednesday 2 Dec 1953 'Mr M. Gunn, pioneer grazier, dies. Marcus Daniel Gunn of Walsh St, South Yarra, a pioneer pastoralist, died yesterday, aged 85. Mr Gunn was born at Mt Banningong Station, near Ballarat, in 1868. He contributed much to the pastoral industry. He and his brother Mr J.A. Gunn discovered and developed late last century the anti-anthrax vaccine still in use. He is survived by a daughter, Norma Caro and a son Keith Gunn. The funeral today will be private.'

⁴⁰⁸ Rob Webster, *Bygones and Beyond*, 'one day in 1888 Gunn and his brother, Marcus Daniel Gunn, rode to a paddock on Yalgogrin where they saw hundreds of carcasses of dead sheep'.

⁴⁰⁹ Electoral Roll: 1903 Roll lists John Alexander Gunn, Station Manager, Marcus Daniel Gunn, Station Manager, Norman Gunn, Licensed Vaccinator, Mary Jane Gunn, Domestic Duties and Jessie Marie Gunn, Domestic Duties as residing at Borambola Station.

⁴¹⁰ Ian M Gunn to Donald Gunn, Mar 1997.

⁴¹¹ 'Genealogy given by McKenzie cousin to W.W. & M.D. Gunn, sons of Donald Gunn, June 19th 1928

Father

Donald Gunn born Brawlbin emigrated Australia, was at Burrumbeet. Died at Ballarat. Married Jane Surman.

Grandfather.

Alexander Gunn died Brawlbin married wife Gunn (Barbara).

Great Grandfather

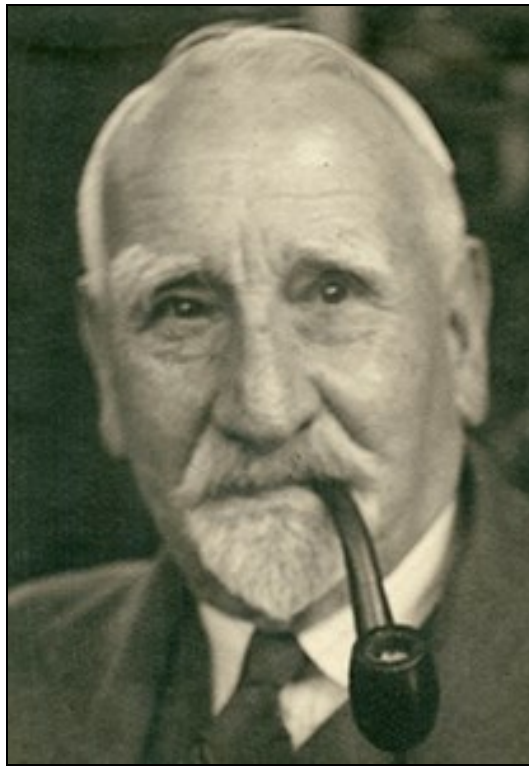
Donald Gunn died at Brawlbin after leaving Braehour. *[Barbara's line – the Clan Gunn Chief line]*

Great Great Grandfather

John Gunn of Strathmore. *[Barbara's line]*

Great Great Great Grandfather

Alexander Gunn of Strathmore *[Barbara's line]*



Marcus Daniel Gunn

Mary CHENHALL (105)⁴¹² was born on 08 Oct 1873 in Doma Mungi (being aboriginal for 'Black Dog Creek') Chiltern, Vic.⁴¹³ She died in 1941 in Melbourne.⁴¹⁴

Children of Marcus Daniel Gunn (36) and Mary Jane Chenhall (105) both born in Corowa, NSW, were as follows:

5.1 Keith Lindsay GUNN (121) was born in 1904.⁴¹⁵ He married Winifred Hardy (124), daughter of Charles Hardy (944) and Mary Alice Pownell (945), in 1939 in Vic. He died on 10 Aug 1967 in Melbourne, Vic.⁴¹⁶

Winifred HARDY (124) was born on 13 Jun 1905 in Wagga Wagga, NSW. She died on 09 Jun 1984 in Healesville, Vic, at age 78.

Cousins

J D Nicholson, Minister of Strathpepper.

Alexander Gunn, Cape Wrath Land Steward Durness.

John & Alexander Miller of Wick, McKenzie, Wick

Sir John Gunn, Cardiff, brother Hector Gunn and cousin of Donald Gunn father as above.

Sir Oliver Lodge also related, probably through Cardiff Gunns.'

⁴¹² Ian M. Gunn to Donald Gunn, Mar 1997.

⁴¹³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1873 22731.

⁴¹⁴ Letter or email from Jan Tracy to Donald Gunn, 20 Aug 2007.

⁴¹⁵ Ian M. Gunn to Donald Gunn, Mar 1997 and 27 Feb 2005 and for much further information on this page; Register of BDMs - NSW, 1904 21523.

⁴¹⁶ Ian M. Gunn to Donald Gunn, Family Group sheet Apr 1999.

5.2 Norma Mary GUNN (125) was born on 16 Apr 1907.⁴¹⁷ She married Harvard Wendall Wilkinson (122) in Vic. She married George Alfred Caro (123), son of Maximilian Caro (701) and Esther Margaret Gollin (702), in 1945 in Melbourne, Vic.⁴¹⁸ They went on a major cruise in 1950 visiting the USA, England, South Africa and Kenya (at least). She died in Jul 1971 in Melbourne, Vic, at age 64.⁴¹⁹

Harvard Wendall WILKINSON (122) died in 1962.

George Alfred CARO (123) was born on 10 May 1893 in Vic.⁴²⁰ He married Alice Lilian May (871) in 1920.⁴²¹ He died in Feb 1971 in Melbourne, Vic, aged 77.⁴²²

⁴¹⁷ Register of BDMS - NSW, 1907 12761.

⁴¹⁸ Jan Tracy to Donald Gunn, 20 Aug 2007.

⁴¹⁹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1971 18190; Jan Tracy to Donald Gunn, 20 Aug 2007.

⁴²⁰ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1893 24158X1922; Jan Tracy to Donald Gunn, 20 Aug 2007.

⁴²¹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1920 14780.

⁴²² Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1971 2912; Jan Tracy to Donald Gunn, 20 Aug 2007.

6. Barbara GUNN

Barbara GUNN (106) was born on 20 Jun 1870 in Burrumbeet, Vic.⁴²³ She married Isaac Padgett (103), son of George Padgett (2330) and Martha Turner (2331), on 29 Mar 1899 at 185 Lydiard St, Ballarat, Vic.⁴²⁴ She died on 17 Jul 1941 in Braemore, Werribee, Vic, at age 71.⁴²⁵ She was a schoolteacher in 1898 in Mount Cole, Vic.⁴²⁶ She was a schoolteacher and post mistress between 1900 and 1930 in Vic. She was given a valedictory on leaving circa 1905 in Mount Cole, Vic.⁴²⁷ Barbara and Isaac Padgett lived at Braemore, Werribee South, Victoria from some time after their marriage until their deaths.⁴²⁸

Isaac PADGETT (103)⁴²⁹ was born in 1867 in Mount Cole⁴³⁰, Vic.⁴³¹ He died on 30 Sep 1937 in Braemore, Werribee, Vic.⁴³²

⁴²³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1870 14268.

⁴²⁴ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1899 983.

⁴²⁵ *Unknown newspaper*, 'On 17 July, at her residence, Braemore, Duncans Road, Werribee South, Barbara, the dearly beloved wife of the late Isaac Padgett, and loving mother of Barbara (Mrs Bence), Norman, and Jean (Mrs Gilmour) aged 71 years - mother and father reunited. On 17 July, at her residence, Braemore, Werribee South, Barbara, relict of the late Isaac Padgett, loved mother of Barbara (Mrs Bence) Norman, and Jean (Mrs Gilmour), and loved sister of M.D., Norman and Catherine Gunn.'

⁴²⁶ Letter, Sylvia Bairsto to Donald Gunn, Dec 1996; 'Barbara and Isaac Padgett lived at Braemore, Werribee South, Victoria from some time after their marriage until their deaths. Son Norman (1903-1952) bought the house and farm from the estate. His family lived there through the war until selling the property in 1947. Barbara was a schoolteacher (& as such had the secondary task - unpaid - of Post Mistress) at Mount Cole before marriage. Also at Point Arlington (Portarlington) as school teacher. Isaac - dairy farmer with pure bred Friesian cattle. Grand-daughter Sylvia was born in Wellington NZ when parents were taking delivery of a bull (Ferdinand Prince Domino) for her grandfather Isaac. Later grandson Arthur Bence (1926-1994), dairy farmer, had progeny from his herd.'

⁴²⁷ *Unknown newspaper*, '1st July [Probably about 1905 - DG 7/97] On Thursday evening last, in the local Hall, a valedictory social was tendered to Mr & Mrs Isaac Padgett, who are leaving this district for their new home at Cressy.

The hall was tastefully decorated with ferns, heath and wattle blossom, and a large number of local residents gathered to wish Mr & Mrs Padgett au revoir.

Mr Padgett had for many years been our church organist, and his place will be very difficult to fill.

Mr J Tait, as chairman, spoke in the highest terms of Mr Padgett, and his words faithfully expressed the sentiments of all present.

Geo. Gordon also in a very humorous speech endorsed Mr Tait's remarks, but said that the one thing against Mr Padgett, inasmuch as he had done the younger part of the population of Mount Cole an irreparable injury, by taking from them their painstaking and popular school teacher, but he would forgive him. He had much pleasure, on behalf of their numerous friends, in presenting Mrs Padgett with a small token of their regard, in the shape of a very handsome hot water kettle. Mrs Padgett kindly acted as accompanist (to a programme of songs and recitations) in her usual efficient manner.'

⁴²⁸ Letter, Sylvia Bairsto to Donald Gunn, Dec 1996.

⁴²⁹ Letter from Margaret Bence to Donald Gunn, 17 Aug 2005.

⁴³⁰ Isaac had siblings (William b. Warrenheip, 1856-1921, George b. Ballarat 1858-1865, Louisa Curson b Ararat 1861, John b. Mt Cole 1863, Emily b. Mount Cole 1865, Amy Sarah b. Ararat 1870, Samuel George b. 1872 Herbert Charles b. Warrak 1875-1949, Mark Joseph 1878-1949 and James Arthur 1880-1961. The father was George Padgett who married Martha Turner in 1855 in Vic, both buried at Warrak, Mt. Cole. George probably came from Wisbech (Wisbech St Peters Norfolk?) in England. He had title to various blocks of land at Warrak.

See <http://www.rootschat.com/forum/index.php?topic=485998.msg3442395;topicseen> for a fuller discussion or *Mt. Cole - Warrak. A history and its people* compiled by M. Beattie and B. Shalders, 1990.

⁴³¹ Letter, Margaret Bence to Donald Gunn, 17 Aug 2005.

⁴³² *Unknown newspaper*, 'On the 30th September, 1937 (suddenly) at Braemore, Werribee, Isaac, loved husband of Barbara, and loving father of Barbara, Norman and Jean.'



Barbara Padgett (nee Gunn) and family c.1924

Children of Barbara Gunn (106) and Isaac Padgett (103) were as follows:

6.1 Barbara Gunn PADGETT (184) was born in 1901 in Ballarat, Vic.⁴³³ She married Ernest Arthur Bence (181), son of Richard Bence (381) and Lena Churchill (382), April 11 1925 in Vic⁴³⁴. She married Reginald Clarence Austin (182) in Vic. She died on 19 Jul 1960.⁴³⁵

Ernest Arthur BENCE (181) was born on 09 Nov 1900 in Bombay. He married Olga Maud Gillespie (2334) after 1928.⁴³⁶ He was a horse trainer⁴³⁷ and artist. He died in 1961.

6.2 Norman Gunn PADGETT (180) was born on 01 Dec 1903 in Ballarat East, Vic.⁴³⁸ In 1928 Norman went by ship from Hong Kong to Canada; he had already spent some time as a 'lumberman' in Borneo.⁴³⁹ He married Marjorie Rosina Minchin (185), daughter of Corker Wright Minchin (442)

⁴³³ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1901 24234.

⁴³⁴ Barbara Gunn Bence was divorced from Ernest Arthur Bence on the grounds of desertion reported in 'The Argus' 11 February 1939.

⁴³⁵ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/printArticlePdf/12096145/3?print=n>

⁴³⁶ Letter, Margaret Bence to Donald Gunn, 17 Aug 2005.

⁴³⁷ Known personally by Margaret Bence, 11 May 2005.

⁴³⁸ *Nominal Roll WW2*.

⁴³⁹ Canadian Passenger Lists 1865-1935, 'Empress of Russia' 22 January 1928.

and Florence Carpenter (443), on 13 Feb 1932 in Punt Rd Presbyterian Church, South Yarra, Vic.⁴⁴⁰ In January 1939 he was a part-owner of a sawmill at Narbethong⁴⁴¹. He died on 10 Dec 1952 in St Clair Station, Princhester, Qld, at age 49.⁴⁴² He was buried on 15 Dec 1952 in Rockhampton, Qld. He competed at Victorian Amateur Boxing and Wrestling Championships circa 1922 in Wirths' Olympia, Melbourne, Vic.⁴⁴³ He began military service on 09 Aug 1943 in Melbourne, Vic, in the RAAF, Service No. 408148, next of kin Marjorie Padgett.⁴⁴⁴ He ended military service on 02 Jan 1946 in Station HQ, Laverton, Vic, as a Flying Officer having being awarded the Air Force Medal. He had an interesting history working in Sarawak and North Borneo.⁴⁴⁵ In November 1952 it was reported that 'Indonesian authorities at Sourabaya are holding a 35 ft luxury yacht valued at £9,000 owned by a Queensland grazier. The owner, Mr Norman Gunn Padgett 43, of St Clair Station near Rockhampton, returned to Australia by air...' ⁴⁴⁶ He died when clearing a runway for his plane to land on his property; he had flown it from Singapore to take over the property six weeks after his yacht had been seized. A burning tree fell on him.⁴⁴⁷ He may have owned an aeroplane in New Guinea⁴⁴⁸ 1942-1944.

Marjorie Rosina MINCHIN (185) was born on 31 Aug 1905 in WA. She died in 1999.

6.3 Jean Gunn PADGETT (186) was born on 15 Jul 1913 in Vic. She married William Frederick Gilmour (Rev.) (183), son of Hugh Bicket Gilmour (588) and Hannah Cock (2969), on 17 Nov 1937 in St Thomas Presbyterian, Werribee, Vic.⁴⁴⁹ She died on 25 Feb 2002 at age 88.⁴⁵⁰ She was a school teacher.

⁴⁴⁰ *Unknown newspaper*, 'On the 13th February, 1932, at Presbyterian Church, Punt Road, South Yarra, by the Rev. H Douglas Fearon, Marjorie Rosina, third daughter of Mr and Mrs F.J.C. Minchin, Korumburra, to Norman Gunn, only son of Mr and Mrs I Padgett, Braemore, Werribee.'

⁴⁴¹ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/1763332?searchTerm=Gunn> for the September 1 1939 newspaper report of the Coroner's finding.. <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/17600899?searchTerm=Gunn> for a second report which suggests Norman Gunn Padgett was sole owner. And *The Sydney Morning Herald* 30 August 1939, page 15 and the SMH of 1 September 1939 suggests some 'interesting' aspects as to the cause of the fire. Also <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/1125942?searchTerm=Gunn>

⁴⁴² *Unknown newspaper*, 'On 10 December (result of accident), St Clair, Rockhampton, loved husband of Marjorie, father of Sylvia, Judy and Jan, loved brother of Barbara and Jean.'

⁴⁴³ *Unknown newspaper*, Undated; 'Victorian Amateur Championships. The second series of the boxing and wrestling championships was held at Wirths' Olympia last night. Senator Walter Kingsmill presided. There were some excellent contests, particularly in the wrestling bouts. Middles: W. Padgett (11.0) and P. Nelson (11.3), two magnificent specimens of Australian youth provided a stirring go. Padgett got a bar-hold at 7 minutes, and refusing to release lost his position. He won, however, comfortably. Middleweight:- F. Greatorese, 10.12, St Kilda, v MG Padgett, 11.4, Werribee. Padgett sent his opponent to the mat and applied a scissors hold, but found Greatorese too smart when down. Padgett was the aggressor, but was bleeding from the nose. Greatorese almost gained a fall with a headlock, but Padgett stood the strain and escaped. Honors were fairly even, with Padgett showing most strength. At the end of 10 minutes the verdict was a tie on points, with an order for five minutes' more wrestling. Padgett brought his opponent down with a headlock, but could not retain his hold. Greatorese was too smart on the mat. Both wrestlers were laughing during the last few minutes. Padgett then applied a scissors hold, and followed with an armlock, and secured a fall half a minute before the extra five minutes expired and won the match.'

⁴⁴⁴ *Nominal Roll WW2*; National Archives of Australia RAAF service no. 408148.

⁴⁴⁵ Letter, Sylvia Bairsto to Donald Gunn, 23 Jan 1997: 'Norman was timber miller, grazier, pilot, sea captain, engineer, etc, etc. Norman worked for William Watkins Gunn (1861-1935) at Noojee and it was from there that Norman went to Borneo (first time - he was there twice). Worked for North Borneo Timber and Trading Co on the Kinabatangan River, North Borneo. After the war Norman had a timber business based on the Baram River, Sarawak. Ed and I visited Noojee early this year and found the old railway line that served the mill. Also met (casually) a man who'd known of the Gunns and found the crossing (of river) where the road went in to the mill. I'll be looking at material held on a nearby farm (Stephen found when on holiday) I think photos, paper cuttings etc when next in Melbourne.'

⁴⁴⁶ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 17 November 1952, page 3.

<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/search?searchTerm=Gunn&textSearchScope=full&startFrom=6500>

⁴⁴⁷ *Rockhampton Morning Bulletin*, 11 December 1952, page 4.

⁴⁴⁸ <http://trove.nla.gov.au/work/13569392?q=-padgett&c=picture>

⁴⁴⁹ *Unknown newspaper*, 'On the 17th November, 1937, at St Thomas's Presbyterian Church, Werribee, by Rev. P W Turner and Rev. K C Wood, William Frederick, younger son of Mr and Mrs H B Gilmour, Sunbury, to Jean Gunn, younger daughter of Mrs Padgett and the late Mr I Padgett, Braemore, Werribee.'

⁴⁵⁰ Margaret Bence, 11 May 2005; Letter, Margaret Bence to Donald Gunn, 17 Aug 2005; Letter or email, Dougal Gilmour to Donald Gunn, 05 Mar 2008.

William Frederick GILMOUR (Rev.) (183) was born on 12 Feb 1905 in Brunswick, Vic.⁴⁵¹ He died on 08 Oct 1996 in Geelong, Vic, at age 91.⁴⁵² He was appointed a Presbyterian Minister in 1947 for Red Cliffs, Vic.⁴⁵³ Then he was appointed the Minister for Surrey Hills, Vic. in 1957 and then the Minister for Coleraine, Vic. in 1961 and finally for South Yarra, Vic. in 1970.



*Barbara Gunn and her husband Isaac Padgett (103);
Richards Art Studio operated from Sturt Street Ballarat in the years 1899-1900.
Barbara is wearing a wedding ring and she was married in 1899.*

⁴⁵¹ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1905 1176 - father, Hugh Bicket Gilmour, mother Hannah Cock.

⁴⁵² Letter or email, Dougal Gilmour to Donald Gunn, 27 May 2005.

⁴⁵³ *Index of Presbyterian Ministers in Victoria 1859-1977* Synod Archives, Victoria 1993), 1905, born at Ormond College; 1939, ordained; 1940, Chaplain RAAF; 1947 Redcliffe; 1957, Surrey Hills; 1961 Coleraine; 1970 South Yarra.

7. Norman GUNN⁴⁵⁴ was born on 11 May 1872 in Burrumbeet, Vic.⁴⁵⁵ He died in 1944 in Williamstown, Vic.⁴⁵⁶ He was on the electoral roll with John Alexander Gunn (Hon.) (32) in 1903 at Borambola Station, NSW.⁴⁵⁷ He was a stock and station agent, unmarried in 1915.⁴⁵⁸ He began military service on 12 Apr 1915 in Melbourne, Vic, enlisted as Private, service number 1549, next of kin W.W. Gunn (brother).⁴⁵⁹ He was discharged on 15 May 1918 from 22nd Battalion.

8. Hugh GUNN

Hugh was born on 28 Oct 1875 in Burrumbeet, Vic.⁴⁶⁰ He died on 24 Jun 1879 in Burrumbeet, Vic, at age 3.⁴⁶¹ He was buried on 25 Jun 1879 in Old Cemetery Area DN Sec.14 Lot 5, Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁶²

⁴⁵⁴See page 7. By family repute he was apparently 'a bit of a lad' with the trace of a minor scandal.

⁴⁵⁵Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1872 7586.

⁴⁵⁶Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1944 11958.

⁴⁵⁷Electoral Roll: 1903 Roll lists John Alexander Gunn, Station Manager, Marcus Daniel Gunn, Station Manager, Norman Gunn, Licensed Vaccinator, Mary Jane Gunn, Domestic Duties and Jessie Marie Gunn, Domestic Duties as residing at Borambola Station.

⁴⁵⁸The AIF Project, online <http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au:8080/index.html>

⁴⁵⁹National Archives of Australia, Series B2455, control symbol Gunn N, barcode 4380098, born Ballarat; The AIF Project.

⁴⁶⁰Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1875 21520.

⁴⁶¹Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1879 3921.

⁴⁶²Ballarat Old Cemetery records: Area DN Sec.14 Lot 5.

9. Arthur Gilbert GUNN



*Richards Art Studio operated from Sturt Street Ballarat in the years 1899-1900.
This makes Arthur Gilbert about twenty-one years old.*

Arthur Gilbert GUNN (9) was born on 19 May 1878 in Burrumbeet, Vic.⁴⁶³ He married Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick (10), daughter of Edgar Retallick (100) and Louisa Miriam Hore (102), on 03 Dec 1901 in Scots Church, Lydiard St, Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁶⁴ He died on 18 Jun 1933 in Ivanhoe, Vic, at age 55.⁴⁶⁵ He was buried on 20 Jun 1933 in Brighton cemetery, Vic. He was a commercial traveller.⁴⁶⁶ He was a warehouseman on 03 Jan 1905 in Kalgoorlie, WA. He was a business manager in Jan 1916 in Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁶⁷

Louisa Maud Miriam RETALLICK (10)⁴⁶⁸ was born on 21 Nov 1875 in Naseby, Otago. She was christened on 07 Jan 1877 in St George's Church, Naseby, Otago. She died on 13 Nov 1959 in Elsternwick, Vic, at age 83. She was buried in Brighton cemetery, Vic.

⁴⁶³ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1878 7226.

⁴⁶⁴ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1901 7407; Certificate of Marriage, Scots Church Register No. 114 - Arthur Gilbert Gunn, 23, Warehouseman, of Clarendon Street, Ballarat, born Burrumbeet, and Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick, 26, Spinster, of Campbells Crescent, Ballarat, born Naseby, New Zealand, at Scots Church, Ballarat. Witnesses Alice Louisa Pascoe and Paul Hore.

⁴⁶⁵ *Unknown newspaper*, 'on the 18th June (suddenly), at Ivanhoe, Arthur Gilbert, dearly beloved husband of Louisa Maud Gunn, and beloved father of Malcolm, Kenneth, Angus, and Collier (deceased), late of Ballarat; Certificate of Death: 1933 4607: 18th June 1933 at Kenilworth Private Hospital, Kenilworth Parade, Ivanhoe, Shire of Heidelberg, Arthur Gilbert Gunn, Commercial Traveller, age 55 years, of coronary thrombosis, 1st attack 2 years ago, cardiac failure, father Donald Gunn, farmer, mother Jane Gunn formerly Surman, buried 20th June 1933 at Brighton Cemetery. Born Ballarat, 43 years in Victoria, 12 years in Western Australia. Married at age 24 years to Louisa Maud Retallick; children Malcolm Donald, 30 years, Kenneth Douglas, 28 years, Angus Norman, 21 years, Collier (Colin?), deceased.'

⁴⁶⁶ Electoral Roll: Arthur Gilbert Gunn, Traveller, 85 Lyon Street South; Louisa Maud Marion Gunn, Home Duties, 85 Lyon Street South.

⁴⁶⁷ Certificate of Death: of son Colin.

⁴⁶⁸ Certificate of Baptism: No.89: born Nov 21st 1875, baptised Jan 7th 1877, child Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick, parents Edgar & Louisa, abode Naseby, trade miner, sponsors James Hore, Silas Hore & mother.



Arthur Gilbert Gunn and family c. 1913 / 1914

Children of Arthur Gilbert Gunn (9) and Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick (10) were as follows:

9.1 Malcolm Donald GUNN (11) was born on 22 Mar 1903 in Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁶⁹ He married Audrey Marley Tyers (13), daughter of Alexander Mackenzie Tyers (15) and Mary Jane Johnston (14), on 07 Jun 1930 in the Presbyterian Church, Canterbury, Vic.⁴⁷⁰ He died on 26 Oct 1961 in Austin Hospital, Heidelberg, Vic, at age 58.⁴⁷¹ He was cremated in Vic.

He was educated on 20 Apr 1916 in Ballarat, Vic; Primary School Junior Swimming Certificate. He was educated in 1917; awarded silver medallion engraved on front MDG, on back Champion Cadet Team, 1917 M.D. Gunn. He was educated on 16 Mar 1918 in Pleasant Street School, Ballarat, Vic; Secondary School Merit Certificate. He was educated in Dec 1918 at Ballarat College, Ballarat, Vic; Secondary School prizes 1st chemistry, eq 2nd algebra, 2nd history. He was a bank official following payment of 'the sum of Ten Pounds, being amount of deposit in terms of Probationer's Agreement' on 27 Sep 1920 in Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd, Melbourne, Vic. On 11 Mar 1924 Malcolm foiled a theft of cash from the ticket box in his charge at a local race meeting by chasing robbers with a drawn revolver at Bunyip, Vic.⁴⁷² He was later the bank manager at Kew, Swan Hill and Dandenong in Vic.

⁴⁶⁹Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1903 7705.

⁴⁷⁰Certificate of Marriage, Malcolm Donald Gunn, Bank Officer age 27, Bachelor, born Ballarat, residence Bambra Road, Caulfield, father Arthur Gilbert Gunn, Traveller, mother Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick, married Audrey Marley Tyers, Clerk age 30, Spinster, born Bendigo, residence Burwood Avenue, Upper Hawthorn, father Alexander McKenzie Tyers, Civil Engineer, mother Mary Jane Johnston, on 7 June 1930 at the Presbyterian Church, Canterbury according to the forms of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

⁴⁷¹Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1961 20080.

⁴⁷²*The Argus* 29 April 1924 page 4; 'Peace and harmony which prevailed at a Bunyip (Victoria) race meeting were suddenly interrupted by cries of "robbery"' and the spectacle of a man 6ft. 2in. in height waving a revolver in the air. The man with the revolver was Malcolm Gunn, a clerk employed



Malcolm Donald Gunn, 1933 and 1956

Audrey Marley TYERS (13)⁴⁷³ was born on 12 Mar 1900 in Bendigo, Vic.⁴⁷⁴ She died on 18 Apr 1984 in East Ringwood, Vic, at age 84.⁴⁷⁵ She was cremated in Springvale Crematorium, Vic. A photo of the staff of the Head Office of the Commercial Bank of Australia in Melbourne includes Audrey; it was taken on 27 Jun 1922. She was a clerk in 1924.⁴⁷⁶ Report of the wedding was in *The Sun News-Pictorial* on 09 Jun 1930.⁴⁷⁷

by Commercial Bank at Bunyip. He had been sent to take charge of the tickets and the money, and while he was out of the ticket office for a few minutes the money was taken...'

⁴⁷³ Bible of Mary Jane Tyers nee Johnston.

⁴⁷⁴ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1900 8588; Bible of Mary Jane Tyers.

⁴⁷⁵ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1984 8827.

⁴⁷⁶ Electoral Roll.

⁴⁷⁷ *The Sun*, Gunn - Tyers Evening Wedding at Canterbury Presbyterian Church on Saturday, at 7 pm, the marriage of Malcom Donald Gunn and Audrey Marley Tyers was solemnised by Rev. J.A.Forrest. The church had been prettily decorated with pink flowers and asparagus fern by friends. The bride is the third daughter of Mr and Mrs A.Mackenzie Tyers, Jancourt, Burwood Avenue, Upper Hawthorn, and the bridegroom is the eldest son of Mr and Mrs Arthur Gunn, Bambra Road, Caulfield. Mr Tyers gave his daughter away. During the signing of the register, a solo was sung by Mrs A.W. Nicholls.

Parchment tinted triple Georgette and lace formed the graceful frock worn by the bride. It almost touched the ground. A beautiful Brussels lace veil (lent by Mrs W.B. Montgomery) was mounted over tulle, and confined by orange blossom. Her bouquet was of white azaleas and maiden hair fern. Misses Gean and Joyce Tyers, as bridesmaids, wore floral poul de sole frocks, the first being in pale blue and the second in a soft shade of gold. They were made with tight-fitting bodices, and circular skirts, which fell to the ankles in uneven lines. Hats of felt to match were worn, and they carried baskets filled with flowers to tone, one being filled with pink carnations and blue delphiniums, and the other in golden yellow and orange tonings. Mr Donald Robinson was best man, and Mr Angus Gunn (brother) the groomsman.

After the ceremony the bride's parents entertained 50 guests in their home, which was bright with flowers. Mrs Tyers wore a gown of black crepe satin, with a wrap of black moire silk and fur, and toque of Oriental ring velvet and gold tissue. Her bouquet was of Duchess of York pansies. The bridegroom's mother wore black ring velvet under her wrap of dahlia-red velvet and sable fur. Her toque was of black tulle, and her bouquet of deep pink carnations.'

9.2 Kenneth Douglas GUNN (23) was born on 03 Jan 1905 in Kalgoorlie, WA.⁴⁷⁸ He married Mary Fraser Staveley (46), daughter of William Stavely (663) and Emily Edith Richards (664), on 15 Nov 1932 in Holy Trinity C of E, Yackandandah, Vic; Register 1932 32.⁴⁷⁹ He died on 30 Jul 1951 in Longreach, Qld.⁴⁸⁰ He was buried on 03 Aug 1951 in Rockhampton, Qld; cremated. He was educated between 1915 and 1918; Pleasant Street, Ballarat.⁴⁸¹ He was educated in 1919; Ballarat College.⁴⁸² He was a bank manager. He began military service on 08 Jul 1940 in Caulfield, Vic, army, service number VX26787, next of kin Mary Fraser Gunn.⁴⁸³ He ended military service on 06 Oct 1945 in AAPC-CPM SEC (ME) as a sergeant after total service of 1917 days, of which 792 were in Australia and 1040 overseas.⁴⁸⁴



Kenneth Douglas Gunn 1940

Mary Fraser STAVELEY (46) was born on 01 Mar 1905 in Wangaratta, Vic. She died on 16 Dec 1966 in Heidelberg, Vic, at age 61.⁴⁸⁵ She was cremated in Springvale, Vic.

⁴⁷⁸ Register of BDMs - Western Australia, 1905 1627 (or 1905 20094?); National Archives of Australia Series B883, control symbol VX26787, barcode 6227284, date of birth 03 Jan 1905, Kalgoorlie.

⁴⁷⁹ Certificate of Marriage, Kenneth Douglas Gunn, Bank Official, 27 Bachelor, born Kalgoorlie, resident at Yackandandah, WA, father Arthur Gilbert Gunn, Retired Traveller, mother Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick, married Mary Fraser Stavely, Home Duties, 27, Spinster, born Wangaratta, resident Yackandandah, father William Stavely, Station Master, mother Emily Edith Richards, according to the Rites of the Church of England.

⁴⁸⁰ Inquest, 23 Aug 1951 Longreach, Coroner P T Noone.

⁴⁸¹ *Consolidated Index to Ballarat & District School Student Registers*, Pleasant Street - Kenneth Douglas Gunn, DOB 3 Jan 1905, No. in register 298/2086.

⁴⁸² *History of Ballarat College 1864-1964*, College Register 1919 K D Gunn.

⁴⁸³ National Archives of Australia Series B883, control symbol VX26787, barcode 6227284; *Nominal Roll WW2*, Date of enlistment 8 Jul 1940, Caulfield, SN VX26787.

⁴⁸⁴ *Nominal Roll WW2*. We cannot make the dates add up.

⁴⁸⁵ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1967 497.

9.3 Angus Norman GUNN (24) was born on 15 Apr 1912 in the Hospital, Egan Street, Kalgoorlie, WA.⁴⁸⁶ He married Jeanette Lottie Paton (51), daughter of Hugh Paton (472) and Ellen Lottie Davis (473), on 06 Mar 1937 in Trinity Presbyterian Church, Camberwell, Vic.⁴⁸⁷ He died on 26 Mar 1994 in Sutherland District Hospital, Caringbah, NSW, at age 81.⁴⁸⁸ He was buried on 29 Mar 1994 in Woronora Crematorium, Sutherland, NSW; former Australian Prime Minister Gough Whitlam was among the mourners.⁴⁸⁹ He was a pharmacist. He was educated circa 1920 in Pleasant Street School, Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁹⁰ He was educated in 1925 in Ballarat College, Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁹¹ He witnessed the marriage of Malcolm Donald Gunn (11) and Audrey Marley Tyers (13) on 07 Jun 1930 in the Presbyterian Church, Canterbury, Vic.⁴⁹²



Angus Norman Gunn 1930

Jeanette Lottie PATON (51) was born on 05 Oct 1912 at home, 89 Broadway, Camberwell, Vic.⁴⁹³ She died on 21 Jun 1998 in Bethany Nursing Home, Port Macquarie, NSW, at age 85.⁴⁹⁴ She was cremated on 26 Jun 1998 in Sutherland, NSW; Woronora Crematorium.

9.4 Colin GUNN (29) was born in Sep 1915 in Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁹⁵ He died on 18 Jan 1916 in Doveton Street, Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁹⁶ He was buried on 19 Jan 1916 in Old Cemetery Area DN Sec.14 Lot 5, Ballarat, Vic.⁴⁹⁷

⁴⁸⁶ Register of BDMs - Western Australia, 1912 6546; Certificate of Birth: 1912 6546: 15 April 1912, in the East Coolgardie District of Western Australia, Angus Norman Gunn, father Arthur Gilbert Gunn, Manager, age 34 born Burrumbeet, residing at Ward Street, Kalgoorlie, married Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick, age 36 born Naseby New Zealand, on 3 December 1901 at Ballarat.

⁴⁸⁷ Certificate of Marriage, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Riversdale Road, Camberwell, reg A247.

⁴⁸⁸ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 Mar 1994, 'Gunn, Angus Norman, 26 Mar 1994 at Sutherland Hospital late of Cronulla, dearly loved husband of Jeanette, loved father of Valerie, Coralie and Kenneth, cherished grandpop to his 10 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild'; Certificate of Death: NSW 1994 10745.

⁴⁸⁹ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 28 Mar 1994, 'the relatives and friends of the late Angus Norman Gunn of Cronulla are invited to attend his funeral service to be conducted in the West Chapel of the Woronora Crematorium today (Tuesday 29 Mar 1984) at 11 am.'

⁴⁹⁰ *Ballarat Student Registers*, Angus Gunn DOB 15 Apr 1912 School Pleasant Street No.in register 1121.

⁴⁹¹ W.G. Mein, *History of Ballarat College*, 1925 A. N. Gunn.

⁴⁹² Certificate of Marriage, Malcolm Donald Gunn, Bank Officer age 27, Bachelor, born Ballarat, residence Bambra Road, Caulfield, father Arthur Gilbert Gunn, Traveller, mother Louisa Maud Miriam Retallick, married Audrey Marley Tyers, Clerk age 30, Spinster, born Bendigo, residence Burwood Avenue, Upper Hawthorn, father Alexander McKenzie Tyers, Civil Engineer, mother Mary Jane Johnston, on 7 June 1930 at the Presbyterian Church, Canterbury according to the forms of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

⁴⁹³ Certificate of Birth: Victoria 1912 26307.

⁴⁹⁴ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 23 June 1998; Certificate of Death: NSW 1998 20964.

10. Catherine Alexandrina GUNN (39) was born on 13 Sep 1880 in Burrumbeet, Vic.⁴⁹⁸ She died on 13 Aug 1960 in 13 Leila Road, Ormond, Vic, at age 79. She was living in Clarendon Street in Ballarat with her mother in 1904⁴⁹⁹. She was an unmatriculated undergraduate at the University of Sydney in 1911 studying massage in a class of 16 unmatriculated women. She began military service on 06 Dec 1915 appointed as a member of Australian Army Masseuse Service⁵⁰⁰ with grade of Masseuse.⁵⁰¹ She ended military service on 03 Apr 1925 in Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, NSW; resigned of own accord.⁵⁰² She travelled abroad; there is a record in her diary⁵⁰³ of climbing Ben Nevis in Scotland on February 14, 1904 with a group of friends; she writes of it as a 'Kipling Campus trip'. 'Kit' (as she was known) in her diary included a piece of bark from a tree in Kashmir which a friend had sent her (amongst other foliage). The friend had written 'Dear Kit, Knowing how you appreciate anything out of the ordinary... Alice'. There was a leaf from Darjeeling in India, 1909. The diary also contained the normal 'Victorian' bits and pieces of sentimental poems. Her Electoral Roll addresses and occupations were—1903 District of Ballarat, Catherine Alexander Gunn, Clarendon St Ballarat, 1909 District of Ballarat, Catherine Alexandrina Gunn, 505 Mair St, Milliner (a time gap, presumably including Sydney), 1949 District of Melbourne, Catherine Alexandrina Gunn, 20 Ridgeway Place, Home Duties, and at the same address were Joan White Gunn (the second wife of Alexander Donald Gunn (222), Home Duties and Alexander Donald Gunn (222) and nephew of Catherine Alexandrina Gunn, Traveller and 1954 District of Melbourne Ports, Catherine Alexandrina Gunn, 66 Evans St, Port Melbourne, Home Duties. She spent some time at Norfolk Island⁵⁰⁴ as an envelope addressed to her at Burnt Pine Norfolk Island exists (sent from Melbourne 13 Apr 1942) as does a photo of her there.

An interesting life, not least due to her ten years of military service....

⁴⁹⁵ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1915 18328; Certificate of Death: Victoria, 1916 166 aged 4 months, suddenly from exhaustion and heart failure following three days of gastro-enteritis.

⁴⁹⁶ *Unknown newspaper*, gives name as Collier; both birth and death certificates, Colin. 'Collier (assumed to be an editing error); Certificate of Death: Victoria, 1916 166 aged 4 months, suddenly from exhaustion and heart failure following three days of gastro-enteritis, father Arthur Gilbert Gunn, Business Manager, mother Louisa Maud Miriam Gunn nee Retallack.'

⁴⁹⁷ Ballarat Old Cemetery records; Certificate of Death: buried 19 January at Ballarat Old Cemetery.

⁴⁹⁸ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1880 20818.

⁴⁹⁹ Ballarat Directory 1904

⁵⁰⁰ See http://www.awm.gov.au/cms_images/histories/15/chapters/14.pdf for a very detailed account of this nearly forgotten branch of the Australian Army and the early days of physiotherapy in Australia.

⁵⁰¹ Miscellaneous Army Form, Australian Army Massage Service, Appointment.
To Catherine A Gunn

By virtue of authority given by Regulations for the Australian Army Military Forces, you are hereby appointed to be a Member of the Australian Army Massage Service from the sixth day of December 1915. You are directed diligently to discharge your duty as such in the grade of Masseuse, or any higher grade to which you may be promoted or appointed.

Dated at Melbourne on the 16th day of November 1920. See the original on page 61.

⁵⁰² Miscellaneous Army Form, Department of Repatriation
Sydney, 16th April 1925

To Whom it may Concern

This is to certify that Miss Catherine A. Gunn, whose specimen signature appears at the foot hereof, was employed as Masseuse at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, from the 5th December 1915, to the 3rd April 1925 when she resigned of her own accord.

During this period Miss Gunn had considerable experience in Orthopaedic Massaging, and performed her duties in a conscientious and satisfactory manner. She is possessed of a thorough knowledge of her profession, and can be recommended to anyone desiring her services.

Issued without erasure or alteration,

Deputy Commissioner. See the original on page 62.

⁵⁰³ Held by Alastair Gunn.

⁵⁰⁴ From an email by Jan Tracy January 2010 (daughter of Jan Wilkinson and cousin to I.M. Gunn); her family was close to Kitty at one time. There is possibility of a romantic interest according to repute, see the photo on page 69.



Australian Army Massage Service

Appointment

To Catherine A. Gunn,

By virtue of authority given by Regulations for the Australian Military Forces, you are hereby appointed to be a Member of the Australian Army Massage Service from the 12th day of December 1915.

You are directed diligently to discharge your duty as such in the grade of Massageuse, or any higher grade to which you may be promoted or appointed.

Dated at Melbourne
on the 16th
day of November 1920.

G. W. Cusack
Director-General,
Australian Army Medical Service.

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO
THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
AND QUOTE—

G /

TELEPHONES:
REDFERN 990 TO 997
(8 LINES)

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REPATRIATION.

NEW SOUTH WALES BRANCH,

CHALMERS ST.,

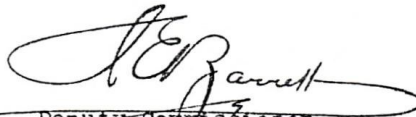
SYDNEY.....16th April,.....1925.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

This is to certify that Miss. Catherine A. Gunn, whose specimen signature appears at the foot hereof, was employed as Masseuse at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Randwick, from the 5th December, 1915, to the 3rd April, 1925, when she resigned of her own accord.

During this period Miss. Gunn had considerable experience in Orthopaedic Massaging, and performed her duties in a conscientious and satisfactory manner. She is possessed of a thorough knowledge of her profession, and can be recommended to anyone desiring her services.

Issued without erasure or alteration.


Deputy Commissioner.

C. A. Gunn



(Left) Catherine on the left at No 4 Army General Hospital⁵⁰⁵ 1917. The badge on the bottom of the sleeve is that of Australian Army Massage Service 1914-1918. The person on the right is her relative Mary 'Molly' Robinson⁵⁰⁶.
(Right) Catherine later in life.



Garden Party at Admiralty House, Sydney, December 1917.
Catherine is on the far left and to her immediate right is, again, Mary 'Molly' Robinson. The person in the middle may be Sir Gerald Strickland, the then Governor of New South Wales.

⁵⁰⁵Opened at Randwick, July 1915.

⁵⁰⁶See footnote 450.



Catherine Gunn



Marcus Gunn, Catherine Gunn, Norman Gunn c.1940



The back of this 'real photograph' postcard states 'Mr Tolly (of Tolly's Winery S.A.) and ... Aunty Kit – Norfolk Island at Aunt Em's boarding house (and in a different ink) Aunty Kits friend Norfolk Island' The writing was by Jan Wilkinson (130) who married a son of Marcus Daniel Gunn, a brother of Catherine. Wilkinsons remain on Norfolk Island in 2010.

It is possible that this is Leonard J. Tolley, son of one of the founders of the major brandy and wine firm of Tolley Scott and Tolley.

iii. Janet 'MacLeod' GUNN (120)⁵⁰⁷ was born on 08 May 1834 in Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness.⁵⁰⁸ She was christened on 19 Aug 1834 in Reay Parish, Caithness.⁵⁰⁹ She married John Watkins Surman (118), son of Daniel Surman (270) and Mary Ann Watkins (271), on 12 May 1864 in house of bride's brother, Donald Gunn, Esquire, Cardigan, Vic.⁵¹⁰ She died on 30 May 1913 in Cardigan, Vic, at age 79.⁵¹¹ She was buried on 02 Jun 1913 in Old Cemetery Area DN Sec.14 Lot 5A, Ballarat, Vic.⁵¹² She appeared on the 1841 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of her parents Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin (1) and Barbara Gunn of Braehour (6).⁵¹³ She appeared on the 1851 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of Donald Gunn of Brawlbin & Ballarat (3).⁵¹⁴ She was living with, and looking after, aged grandparents in Nov 1859.⁵¹⁵ She planned to leave for Australia, but postponed in Mar 1863. She emigrated on 01 Oct 1863 from London per 'Chatsworth', 1129 tons register, 200 passengers. She arrived at Melbourne, Vic, aboard the 'Chatsworth' in company of Donald Campbell (3514) 20 and Eliz. K. Huxton (?) 25 on 16 Jan 1864. She arrived safely and was treated kindly by family in Jan 1864 in Ballarat, Vic. She was a teacher in 1864.⁵¹⁶

Back in Scotland, however...

AN UNKNOWN

(W)ick Wednesday 4th Oct^r. 1849

Dear Madam,

The reason of my long silence will now appear and I hope plead it's own excuse for I have several times attempted to convey in words the sentiments of my heart but agitations &c has compell'd me to silence not in what light it may be could(?)...only if I can form any notion of myheart from the impression made by your many acciabile accomplishments and either my happiness or condolence in this world is a great measure depends on your answer; and I confidently rely that the generosity of you(r) nat(ure) is a sufficient impediment to thetarting any cruel objectionsinstances are pretty independent.....try character hitherto unblemished of ... you shall hgave the (?) undoubted proofif it is to your satisfaction I shall not only consider myself as extremely happy to be permitted to pay

⁵⁰⁷ LDS Church, Christenings of children of Barbara Gunn, father Alexander Gunn.

Catherine, 18 May 1830, Halkirk; Donald, 9 Jun 1832, Reay; Janet, 19 Aug 1834, Reay; John, 29 Feb 1836, Reay.

⁵⁰⁸ Clan Gunn Parish Records: Births 1834 Janet Gunn, parents Alexander, Brawlbin - Barbara; UK Census 06 June 1841: District of Brawlbin lying in the south part of the Parish of Reay. Each person who abode in each house on night of 6 June 1841: Alexander Gunn 50 farmer; Barbara Gunn 30; Kathrine Gunn 11; Donald Gunn 9; John Gunn 5; Janet Gunn 7; William Gunn 2; all born in Caithness.. Note: Census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual ie Alexander Gunn was between 50 and 55 and Barbara between 30 and 35 on 6 June 1841. Birth years are thus Alexander 1786-1791 and Barbara 1806-1811. The summary notes that there were 40 occupied houses, 2 uninhabited houses, 78 males and 94 females comprising 40 families in the Brawlbin District; Census 30 March 1851: County of Caithness, Parish of Reay. Residents at Brawlbin. Donald Gunn head, unmarried 19, farmer, 16 acres, born Halkirk; Katherine Gunn sister, unmarried 20, general service, born Reay; Janet Gunn sister, unmarried 17, scholar, born Reay; John Gunn brother, unmarried 15, scholar born Reay; William Gunn brother, unmarried 12, scholar born Reay. Brawlbin comprised 39 occupied houses with 70 males and 93 females. The census district of Brawlbin and Oldenbruch (?) was 12 miles in length and 2 miles in breadth. The majority of homes, 39, was in Brawlbin, with 3 in Oldenbruch accommodating 24 people; see the *Bible page of Alexander Gunn*: Janet Gunn born 8 May 1834 see page 26.

⁵⁰⁹ LDS Church, Christenings of children of Barbara Gunn, father Alexander Gunn

Catherine, 18 May 1830, Halkirk; Donald, 9 Jun 1832, Reay; Janet, 19 Aug 1834, Reay; John, 29 Feb 1836, Reay.

⁵¹⁰ Certificate of Marriage, 1864 1914 marriages solemnized in the District of Ballarat, John Watkins Surman, Teacher age 33, Bachelor born Hampton-Poyle, Oxon, England, residence Cardigan, father Daniel Surman, Farmer, mother Mary Ann Watkins, married Janet Gunn, age 30, Spinster born Reay, Caithness, Scotland, residence Cardigan, father Alexander Gunn, Farmer, mother Barbara Gunn, at the house of the Bride's Brother, Donald Gunn, Esq, Cardigan, according to the rites of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. *The Star*, Ballarat, Page 2. 17 May 1864.

⁵¹¹ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1913 4219; Letter or email, Dougal Gilmour to Donald Gunn, 8 Apr 1999.

⁵¹² Ballarat Old Cemetery records.

⁵¹³ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁵¹⁴ UK Census 30 March 1851.

⁵¹⁵ See Part 3 for further information.

⁵¹⁶ Certificate of Marriage, 1864 1914 marriages solemnized in the District of Ballarat.

my addresses to you; but should ... love be returned shuld make it thele study of my future life provide the happy of her(?) I prefer to all others in the I shall wait for your answer with utmost impatience and awe,

Madam,

Your sincere admirer

Robert McKay

and in a different hand

p.s A from Atitude recure... this missive comprising a concise sumimons (?), and satiasfactory answers to the foreceeding queries in the care of Mr Gordon Sutherland Cooper Luisburgh Wick will met due attention a hearty and welcom'd acceptance by

.....ry 4/479 2 Ocl

What a letter—to whom was it addressed? Was it to Donald's elder sister Catherine? Perhaps. Or to his younger sister Janet? She was fifteen so may have been too young to marry. But it is probably to her as other letters by her exist and no documents are held for Catherine. And is the letter deliberately burnt by the recipient who then changed her mind?

Wednesday 4th Feb^r 1869

Dear Madam,

The reason of my long silence will
now appear and I hope plead its own excuse for
I have several times attempted to convey in words
the sentiments of my heart but agitation &c has
compelled me to stop. I know not in what
light it might be considered if I can form
any notion of my own mind from the impres-
sions made on it by your many amiable & com-
pliments. And either my happiness or comfort
in this world in a great measure depends on
your answer; and I confidently rely that
the generosity of your heart is a sufficient
impediment to the starting of any
coarse objections. instances are
pretty independent of my character hitherto
unblemished of me. If you shall have the most
undoubted proof of it if it is to your satisfaction
I shall not only consider myself as actually
happy to be permitted to pay my addresses
to you; but should love be returned.

should be it the
life to promote the
to see others in the
your answer with the utmost impatience.
Dear Madam,
Your sincere admirer
Robert M. Hay
P. S. From Atlanta Georgia. This Mission comprising a concise
luminous, and satisfactory answers to the preceding queries
in the care of Mr. Gordon. Nathaniel Cooper Pittsburgh Mich
will need due attention. A hearty and welcome acceptance
By
1473 2^d Oct



Janet Gunn



John Watkins Surman; Janet Gunn's husband

John Watkins SURMAN (118)⁵¹⁷ was born on 09 Oct 1831 in Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire.⁵¹⁸ He was born in 1833 in Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire.⁵¹⁹ He died on 11 Oct 1906 in Cardigan, Ballarat, Vic, at age 75.⁵²⁰ He was buried on 13 Oct 1906 in Old Cemetery Area DN, Section 14, Lot 5A, Ballarat, Vic.⁵²¹ He appeared on the 1841 Census of Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, in the household of Daniel Surman (270).⁵²² He emigrated with Daniel Surman (270) circa 1855; to Australia.⁵²³ He arrived in Melbourne, Vic. say 1855.⁵²⁴ He was a schoolmaster⁵²⁵, the first teacher at Windermere State School No.668, which he helped build and he also helped build the church. He taught for thirty-four years at Windermere.



Cardigan State School (originally Windermere State School 668.)

He was the postmaster on a salary of £35/a in Cardigan, Vic, in 1868. On 26 Jun 1878 John Watkins Surman (118) reported that two more cases of scarlet fever had occurred in the vicinity of Windermere School in Ballarat, Vic.

⁵¹⁷ *Unknown newspaper*, Undated. The death of another old resident, J.W. Surman, occurred on Thursday at his residence, Cardigan, aged 73 years. The deceased gentleman was born at Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, and was educated under Bishop Wilberforce at Oxford. In 1855 he arrived in Victoria with his parents and only sister, the latter being Mrs Gunn, of Doveton Street North. Two years later he settled in Buninyong, where he was engaged with the late Rev. J. Hastie in school work; and in August, 1860, he moved to Cardigan, opening a public school. Subsequently he entered the service of the Education Department, and retained his post until 1892, when he was retired. He was an earnest Sunday school and church worker, conducting the Sunday services for many years until the scattered congregations were able to build a church and obtain a settled minister. Deceased was married in 1864, and seven of his eight children survive. Of these five are sons and two daughters.

⁵¹⁸ Certificate of Marriage, 1864 1914 states age as 33; email message from Judy Meyer to Donald Gunn, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵¹⁹ *Unknown newspaper* '...was born at Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire.'

⁵²⁰ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1906 11573 - gives mother's name as Mary Ann Watkins; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵²¹ Ballarat Old Cemetery records: Area DN, Section 14, Lot 5A.

⁵²² UK Census 06 June 1841: Daniel Surman 35 shoe maker, Mary Surman 30, John Surman 9, Jane Surman 5, Catherine Watkins 60.

⁵²³ *Unknown newspaper* '...in 1855 he arrived in Victoria with his parents and only sister, the latter being Mrs Gunn, of Doveton Street North.'

⁵²⁴ *Ibidem*

⁵²⁵ Teacher reference number 2948.



He was presented with a citation from the Windermere community, signed by eight Windermere Presbyterian Church Elders (being James Charles, Robert Swan sen., Joseph Draffin, John Charles, James Mitchell, Robert Charles, Alexander McCrae and Robert Swan), for his services on 21 Jun 1887.⁵²⁶ He was also presented with a purse of sovereigns.

⁵²⁶ The J. W. Surman Citation, Learmonth District Historical Society.

Cardigan June 26th
1878.

Widerniere School
N^o 668—

The Secretary, Ballarat Shire

Sir

I have the honor to report
two more cases of Scarlet fever
in the vicinity of this school—
viz. the family of Mr James Charles
and of Mr L Stewart

These make five families which
have been attacked by the disease
since the re-opening of the school.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant
J. W. Surman—

An earlier March 1, 1878 letter concerning Scarlet fever had also been sent to the Shire Council.
That earlier outbreak caused the School to be closed.

From the Bible of John Watkins Surman (held by a Surman descendant)—

Family Register.

PARENTS NAMES

HUSBAND *John Watkins Surman* {1831.
Born at *Hampton Poyle, Oxfordshire, England* {Oct 9th
WIFE *Janet Gunn* {1834
Born at *Brawlin Caithness Scotland* {May 9th
MARRIED at *Cardigan, Victoria, Australia*
on *12th of May 1864.*



The Surman family taken around 1890.

CHILDRENS NAMES

John Daniel Surman born May 20th 1866 }
 Alexander Gunn Surman b. Dec 20th 1867.
 Barbara Margaret McHay Surman b. May 22 1869.
 Watkins Surman b. April 8. 1871.
 James William Surman b. Dec. 17. 1872
 Marian Catherine Gunn Surman Mar. 12. 1874
 Theodore Oswald Surman b. Jan. 11. 1876.
 Geoffrey Eustace Surman b. June 29. 1878.

Grandchildren

Jessie Beatrice Surman b. July 5. 1892.
 Linda Pearl Surman b. Sept 18th 1893
 Daphne Reine Grace Brewster July 11. 1893
 Grace Jessie Frances Surman Jan 21st 1895.
 Eric Surman b. Feb. 17. 1895.
 James William Ashley Brewster b. May 6. 1896
 Leslie Watkins Surman b. March 6. 1896
 Jessie Marguerite Surman b. April 14th 1896
 Stella Surman b. Feb 10th 1897
 John Watkins Surman Brewster b. Nov 15 1897

MARRIAGES

Alexander Gunn Surman married Sept 1891
to Esther Kirk

Barbara Margaret McKay Surman married
to James Brewster June 8th 1892.

James William Surman married to
Alice Curtis February 21st 1894

John Daniel Surman married to
Margaret Cowley Nov 6th 1895.

DEATHS

Watkins Surman died May 15. 1875. 44 yrs.

Daniel Surman died Oct 21. 1869. aged 68 years

Mary Ann Surman, his wife d. 23 Nov. 1894 aged 84 y.

Grace Jessie Frances Surman d. May 6. 1895.

John Watkins Surman d. Oct 11th 1906

Alexander Gunn Surman d. Dec 29th 1909

Children of Janet MacLeod Gunn (120) and John Watkins Surman (118) were as follows:

1. Unnamed SURMAN (1550)⁵²⁷ was born in Feb 1865 in Ballarat, Vic. and died on 24 Feb 1865 in Ballarat, Vic.
2. John Daniel SURMAN (272). John Daniel SURMAN (272) was born in 1866 in Cardigan, Vic.⁵²⁸ He married Margaret Cowley (1553) in 1895. He died in 1935 in Dunolly, Vic.⁵²⁹ He may have been a dentist⁵³⁰ (a John Daniel Surman is registered as a dentist in Victoria in 1907 with an address of 18 Carlton Street Carlton. The 1903 and 1909 electoral rolls have John Daniel Surman a dentist, living by himself; which suggests a marital separation).

Margaret COWLEY (1553) was born in 1866. She died on 17 Jul 1951 in Geelong, Vic.⁵³¹ Children of John Daniel Surman (272) and Margaret Cowley (1553) were:

- i. Jessie Marguerite SURMAN (1554) was born in 1896 in Armadale, Vic. She married Gustav Adolf Paul Danier⁵³² (2866) before 1936 (probably in 1935); they lived at 49 The Esplanade and he worked for the Harbour Trust. They lived at 56 Church Street Corio Geelong in 1942. By 1949 he was a proprietor and they still lived at the same address. This was still the case in 1954.⁵³³ She died in 1955 in Geelong, Vic.
 - ii. Thomas William SURMAN (1555) was born in 1899 in Carlton, Vic. He died in 1965 in Melbourne, Vic.
3. Alexander Gunn SURMAN (273). Alexander Gunn SURMAN (273) was born in 1868 in Ballarat, Vic.⁵³⁴ He married Esther Kirk (676) on 16 Sep 1891 in Vic.⁵³⁵ He died in Dec 1909 in Ballarat.⁵³⁶ He was buried on 31 Dec 1909 in New Cemetery, Ballarat.⁵³⁷ He was a farmer. Esther KIRK⁵³⁸ (676) was born in 1864.⁵³⁹ She died on 11 Mar 1938 in Cardigan, Vic.⁵⁴⁰

Children of Alexander Gunn Surman (273) and Esther Kirk (676) were:

⁵²⁷Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and further information on this page.

⁵²⁸Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and much further information on this page.

⁵²⁹Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1935 18026.

⁵³⁰<http://gazette.slv.vic.gov.au/images/1907/V/general/14.pdf>

⁵³¹In the 1919 electoral roll both she and her daughter Jessie Marguerite Surman (1554) were recorded at 86 Western Beach Geelong; the mother with 'home duties' and the daughter was a 'dress maker' and they were still there with the same duties in 1924 and 1931. A Margaret Surman was 'home duties' in Geelong in Victoria Terrace in 1902 (being the only Surman); she was at Western Beach in 1914. By 1936 only Margaret Surman was at 49 The Esplanade suggesting her daughter was married by then. In 1942 she was at 38 Alexandra Avenue, Corio.

⁵³²The Electoral Rolls vary the sequences of both sets of first names; in the 1937 he is down as 'Gustavo'.

⁵³³Judy Meyer; further details from the Electoral Rolls of the time.

⁵³⁴Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1868 819.

⁵³⁵Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1891 5725; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵³⁶Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1909 11179.

⁵³⁷Ballarat Old Cemetery records: Area Presbyterian, Section 7 Lot 40.

⁵³⁸Esther and Stella Surman (681) are recorded as living at Cardigan with Home Duties in the 1919 electoral roll.


⁵³⁹Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and for other information on this page.

⁵⁴⁰<http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/11155279?searchTerm=Adelaide+Hazel+Kelson>

i. Jessie Beatrice SURMAN⁵⁴¹ (680) was born in 1892 in Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁴² She married William George Nathaniel Stephens (1556) in 1915. She died in 1954 in Caulfield, Vic.

ii. Linda Pearl SURMAN⁵⁴³ (682) was born on 18 Sep 1893 in Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁴⁴ She married W. G. Johnson. She was postmistress at Cardigan in 1950.

iii. Eric SURMAN⁵⁴⁵ (683) was born on 17 Feb 1895 in Haddon, nr Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁴⁶ He married Annie Walton (1557). He died on 11 Jan 1959 in Ballarat, Vic, at age 63. He was a farmer in 1915. He began military service on 17 Feb 1915 in Ballarat, Vic, in B Coy 23rd Battalion⁵⁴⁷ and ended military service on 23 Mar 1919 after 1361 days overseas.

<p>E. SURMAN Tree No. 201</p> <p>Eric Surman was born at Cardigan and educated at the Cardigan State School. He enlisted on 17th February, 1915, at the age of 20 years, at this time he was farming.</p> <p>He sailed on the "Southland" for England as a member of the 23rd Battalion, he served in Egypt and France. During service in Flanders he was severely gassed and was evacuated to a hospital in England. After service abroad for 1361 days he returned to Australia on 14th December, 1918, and was discharged on 23rd March, 1919.</p>	
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*Being from Duty Nobly Done by the Learmonth & District Historical Society,
used with permission.*

⁵⁴¹Recorded as a saleswoman at 105 Drummond Street Carlton in the 1914 electoral roll.

⁵⁴²Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1892 19447.

⁵⁴³Recorded at Gardenia Road Elsternwick with 'home duties' in the 1919 Electoral roll.

⁵⁴⁴Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1893 28456.

⁵⁴⁵Erica and Annie were recorded at Wunghnu (near Numurkah Vic) in the 1924 electoral roll. He was a farmer, she with home duties. In the 1931, 1936, 1937, 1942, 1949 and 1954 electoral rolls Eric and Annie were at 11 Webster Street Ballarat, he was a railway employee, she with home duties.

⁵⁴⁶Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1895 3948; National Archives of Australia Series No. V361080.

⁵⁴⁷*Attestation paper*, farmer, age 20 years, NOK Esther Surman, mother.



Studio portrait of 902 Private (Pte) Eric Surman, 23rd Battalion, of Cardigan, Vic. Pte Surman enlisted on 17 February 1915 and embarked aboard HMAT Euripides on 10 May 1915. He returned to Australia on 14 December 1918.⁵⁴⁸



We believe the following are, from left to right; Eric Surman (683), Geoffrey Surman (277) and perhaps the third soldier could be a Brewster. It is not James W. Surman as he enrolled later than the given date of the photo, and he is not known with a moustache.

⁵⁴⁸<http://cas.awm.gov.au/photograph/DA08686> Copyright expired, public domain. Darge Photographic Company.

He began military service again on 19 Mar 1942 in Ballarat, Vic, enlisted in Australian Army, Service Number V361080, next of kin Annie Surman.⁵⁴⁹ He ended military service on 24 Apr 1943 as a private in 20 Battalion Volunteer Defence Corps.⁵⁵⁰ Annie WALTON (1557)⁵⁵¹ was born in 1897.⁵⁵² She died on 26 Jan 1965 in Ballarat, Vic.

iv. Stella SURMAN (681) was born in 1897 in Haddon, Vic.⁵⁵³ She married David Draffin (2867). She died in 1968 in Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁵⁴ She had six children.

v. Tettie SURMAN (679) was born in 1898 in Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁵⁵ She married R. Thompson.

vi. Reginald Gunn SURMAN (678) was born on 26 Sep 1899 in Haddon, Vic.⁵⁵⁶ He married Eva Draffin (2868) in 1928.⁵⁵⁷ He died on 08 Aug 1943 in Ballarat, Vic, at age 43.⁵⁵⁸ According to the electoral roll in 1931, 1936, 1937 he was a farmer at Cardigan; his wife and mother were both 'home duties'. Eva DRAFFIN (2868) was born in 1906.⁵⁵⁹ She died on 24 Oct 1948 in Ballarat, Vic.

vii. Margery SURMAN (687) was born on 01 Dec 1904 in Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁶⁰ She married James Clifford Sharp (995) on 11 Mar 1931 in St Peters Anglican, Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁶¹

4. Barbara Margaret McKay SURMAN (274). Barbara Margaret McKay SURMAN (274) was born in 1870 in Ballarat, Vic. She married James Brewster (1559) in 1892. Various events are known concerning the family and her⁵⁶². She died in 1928 in Morwell, Vic.

⁵⁴⁹ National Archives of Australia.

⁵⁵⁰ National Archives of Australia.

⁵⁵¹ Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵⁵² Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and for further information on this page.

⁵⁵³ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1897 3749.

⁵⁵⁴ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1968 7211.

⁵⁵⁵ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1898 15908.

⁵⁵⁶ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1899 27009; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵⁵⁷ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1928 11857.

⁵⁵⁸ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1943 18948.

⁵⁵⁹ Ballarat Old Cemetery records: Eva Surman age 42, buried 26 Oct 1948, last residence Cardigan, widow, YOB 1906.

⁵⁶⁰ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1905 378.

⁵⁶¹ *Ballarat BDMS CD.*; Reg Bk 29/798

⁵⁶² Barbara Brewster was at Middle Creek with Home Duties in 1909 and 1914, her husband James was a Grazier. Her brother Theodore Oswald Surman (276) signed up for the AIF from Yinnar and named her as the next of kin. On 14 November 1917 there was an advertisement in 'The Argus' newspaper saying 'Found Gold BROOCH on Flinders St station October 27 Apply Mrs Brewster Yinnar.' So Barbara Brewster obviously travelled to Melbourne at times. By 1919 also on the electoral roll were James William Ashley Brewster of Yinnar who was a farmer and John Watkins Surman Brewster of Yinnar who was a farm labourer. By 1924 there were only three on the roll; James Brewster had gone elsewhere. By 1931 John Watkins Surman Brewster has gone to Leongatha and was living in Brumley Street as a farmer. He had married Marjory Letitia 'home duties'. Oswald Geoffrey Brewster and Robert Norman Brewster both of Yinnar South are recorded as Labourers in the 1936 Electoral Roll; a James Brewster of Middle Creek was a Grazier. However the 1937 Leongatha Electoral roll is fascinating; John Watkins Surman Brewster and Marjory Letitia were still at the same address. But also on the Roll are Edith Mary Brewster and George Alan Brewster living at Cashin's loose bag via Tarwin (he was a labourer, she had home duties), Hugh Gordon Brewster and Jessie Isabella Brewster were on the Coast Road Leongatha (he as a labourer, she with home duties). So, two sons got married... Robert Norman was still in Yinnar in 1943 as a labourer. In Leongatha Edith Mary Brewster and George Alan Brewster were at Roughhead Street in Leongatha, John and Marjory Brewster were at 'Neerena' via Leongatha; he was a farmer. By 1949 in Roughhead Street were Edith Mary Brewster and George Alan Brewster, at Neerina were John Watkins Surman Brewster, Marjory Letitia Brewster and Oswald Geoffrey Brewster and his wife Eulalie Perry Brewster (awarded the OAM for service to Inverloch history in 2020 see <https://inverlochhistory.com/eulalie-brewster/>). Robert Norman Brewster was now a farmer at Leongatha and may have had a wife Joan Alison Brewster. James Brewster of Yinnar wrote letters to the editors of various local papers.

Children of Barbara Margaret McKay Surman (274) and James Brewster (1559) were as follows:

- i. Renee Grace Daphne BREWSTER (1577) was born in 1893 in Learmonth, Vic. She married Percy Osborne Scouller (2869) in 1915. She died 1978 in Doncaster, Vic.
- ii. James William Ashley BREWSTER (1578) was born in 1895 in Ballarat, Vic. He married Elsie May Souller (2870) in 1926. He died in 1957 in Sale, Vic.
- iii. John Watkins Surman BREWSTER (1579)⁵⁶³ was born in 1897 in Ballarat, Vic. He died in 1975 in Leongatha, Vic.
- iv. David Baxter BREWSTER (1580) was born in 1899 in Yinnar, Vic. Died 1915.
- v. Janet Barbara BREWSTER (1581) was born in 1902 in Yinnar, Vic.
- vi. George Alan BREWSTER (1582) was born in 1904 in Yinnar, Vic. He died in 1985 in Leongatha, Vic. Married Edith Mary Treadwell 1907-1992.
- vii. Hugh Gordon BREWSTER (1583) was born in 1906 in Leongatha, Vic. He died in 1976 in Leongatha, Vic.
- viii. Oswald Geoffrey BREWSTER (1584) was born in 1912 in Morwell, Vic.
- ix. Robert Norman BREWSTER (1585) was born in 1913 in Morwell, Vic.



*Pupils and teacher at the Yinnar South School, 1909⁵⁶⁴
Teacher Olive Drummond with pupils.*

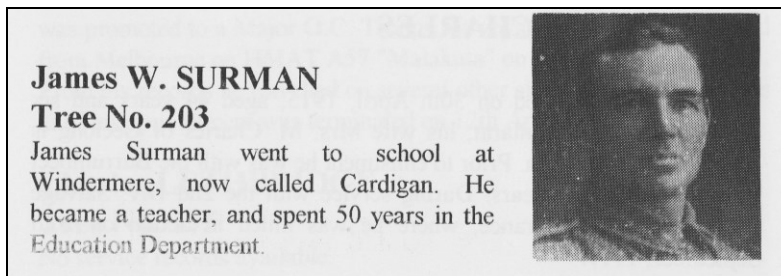
*In the front row, from the left, are George Walker, Irene Keogh, Jessie Clay, **Jean Brewster (1581)**, Ruby Marshall, Ethel Heasom and Violet Keogh. In the second row are Jessie Marshall, Percy Vagg, **David Brewster (1580)**, Eric Walker, **Alan Brewster (1582)** and Jack Heasom. In the third row are ? Heasom, Edith Walker, Mary Heasom, Violet Marshall, Emily Keogh. At the back are Ian Heasom, **Bill Brewster (possibly 1578)**, Gerald Keogh and Archie Vagg.*

⁵⁶³ Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and for much further information on this page.

⁵⁶⁴ [http://arrowprod.lib.monash.edu.au:8080/vital/access/manager/Repository/monash:4412?expert=subject:"Brewster,+Jean"](http://arrowprod.lib.monash.edu.au:8080/vital/access/manager/Repository/monash:4412?expert=subject:) copyright expired.

5. Watkins SURMAN (405) was born in 1871 in Sago Hill / Cardigan, Vic.⁵⁶⁵ He died on 15 May 1875 in Cardigan, Vic.⁵⁶⁶

6. James William SURMAN (275). He was a school teacher. James William SURMAN (275) was born in 1873 in Sago Hill, Vic.⁵⁶⁷ He married Alice Maud Grace Curtis (677) on 21 Feb 1894 in Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁶⁸ He died on 05 Dec 1947 in Horsham, Vic.⁵⁶⁹ He was educated in Windermere, now Cardigan, Vic. He was a teacher, spending fifty years in the Education Department of Vic⁵⁷⁰. He began military service when war broke out in 1914 in Vic. He taught for some time in Gippsland, was a Presbyterian Church Sunday school teacher and cricketer in his younger days.⁵⁷¹



He enlisted when war broke out, was in active service for years, during which time he was on the ill-fated "Ballarat" when it was torpedoed. He returned to teaching. It is interesting to note that since 1854 and until 1937, there had been an unbroken line of Surmans in the teaching profession in Victoria.

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⁵⁶⁵ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1871 19097.

⁵⁶⁶ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1875 5572.

⁵⁶⁷ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1873 5211.

⁵⁶⁸ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1894 1393; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵⁶⁹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1947 22836; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵⁷⁰ 'The Horsham Times', Feb 19, 1937, page 1—' More Than Fifty Years A Teacher Fine Record of Mr J. Surman (Horsham) When Mr J.W. Surman leaves the Horsham State School this afternoon on his furlough prior to retirement he will have spent over 50 years as a teacher in the Education Department. Looking back over his long association with the department he told a "Times" representative on Wednesday that that teachers nowadays "are on velvet," compared with the teachers of 40 or 50 years ago. The conditions, not only from the financial viewpoint, were a great deal better, but the schools were modern and teachers in the country were able to secure board and lodging as a rule in easy distance of the school. In his young days at one place he had to travel seven miles to the school in the morning and back again at night, while at another place he walked knee deep in water to school during the winter. Mr Surman claims to be as old as the Education Act itself for he was born on the same day as it passed. He went to school at Windermere, now called Cardigan, near Ballarat. At 12 years of age he became a paid monitor teacher under his late father, who taught at Windermere for 33½ years. In 1877 he was gazetted as a teacher and at the age of 18 years he was appointed a head teacher and was sent to Dunmunkle North, now known as the Boolite school. Water was so scarce there that it had to be obtained from crab holes in one vicinity. After a period at Daylesford, following six months at Dunmunkle North, Mr. Surman came to Laharum in 1892. The school was not on the present site then. He taught children at Laharum who now have grandchildren attending the same school. He spent over two years at Laharum, during which time he married, and then went to Jeffcott West, and was there at the start of the drought which culminated in 1902. While at Jeffcott the weather was so hot that the temperature did not go below a 100 degrees at night for over a month. The school was on the corner of a 640 acre paddock. Prior to coming to Horsham Mr Surman then spent periods at Middle Bridge (now known as Betley), Faraday in the Castlemaine district, Blackwood North and Woolsthorpe. He was at the last named place when war broke out and he enlisted. He was on active service for two years at the great war, during which time he was on the ill-fated "Ballarat" when it was torpedoed. On his return, he went as assistant to the Camberwell school, and later to Ashby, Geelong West. In January he came to Horsham and has been here for the past 14 years.

It is interesting to note that since the year 1854 there has been an unbroken line of Surmans in the teaching profession of Victoria. Mr Surman's son (Mr J. Surman) is at present teaching at Natimuk,

⁵⁷¹ 'The Horsham Times', 9 December 1847, page 2. 'Obituary'.

Alice Maud Grace CURTIS (677) was born in 1874 in Buninyong, Vic.⁵⁷² She died on 02 May 1956 in Horsham, Vic. At one point they lived at 1 Caroline Stret Horsham. Children of James William Surman (275) and Alice Maud Grace Curtis (677) were:

i. Grace Jessie Frances SURMAN (684) was born in 1895 in Wonwondah South, Vic.⁵⁷³ She died in 1895 in Mount Jeffcott, Vic, aged 3 months.⁵⁷⁴

ii. Leslie Watkins SURMAN⁵⁷⁵ (685) was born in 1896 in Horsham, Vic.⁵⁷⁶ He died in 1939 in Scone NSW.⁵⁷⁷ He had been a bank clerk.

iii. Hazel Marion SURMAN (686) was born on 13 May 1901 in Dunolly, Vic.⁵⁷⁸ She married Robert Devlin (1560) in 1925.⁵⁷⁹ She died in 1984 in Horsham, Vic. She was a schoolteacher, perhaps at Swan Hill in 1924. She had three children

iv. Harry 'Jack' SURMAN (1561) was born on 11.12.1917 in Horsham and died in Drouin, Vic in 2006. He was a secondary school teacher at Bairnsdale, Sale, Yallourn and elsewhere throughout Gippsland. He married and had children.

7. Irene Marian Catherine SURMAN⁵⁸⁰ (693) was born in 1874 in Sago Hill, Vic.⁵⁸¹ In 1903 and 1914, she was at home in Cardigan. She married William O'Connor (692) in 1918 in Vic.⁵⁸² She died in 1940 in Melbourne, Vic.

8. Theodore Oswald SURMAN⁵⁸³ (276) was born in 1876 in Cardigan.⁵⁸⁴ He died on 17 May 1918 in Melbourne South, Vic.⁵⁸⁵ He was buried in Morwell Cemetery, Plot D, Row R, Grave No. 282, Morwell, Vic.⁵⁸⁶ He began military service on 04 Dec 1914 in Vic enlisted as Corporal, Regimental number 1614, Next of Kin, Mrs Barbara Brewster, Yinnar, Gippsland.⁵⁸⁷

⁵⁷² Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and for further information on this page.

⁵⁷³ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1895 8192.

⁵⁷⁴ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1895 6635.

⁵⁷⁵ It is possible he joined the Bank of Australasia and went to Toowoomba as a clerk by 1925 and was a bank manager at Hamilton, near Newcastle, in 1930, but by 1933 (due to the Depression?) he was at 40 Beach Road Edgecliff Woollahra in Sydney as a clerk and probably with a wife as well. Eileen Avonia Surman is 'home duties' at the same address. In 1936 and 1937 they lived at 9 Waverton Avenue in North Sydney. But by 1943 she was living by herself at 38 Gerard Street Cremorne.

⁵⁷⁶ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1896 12223.

⁵⁷⁷ Australian Death Index 1787-1985.

⁵⁷⁸ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1901 18594; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵⁷⁹ Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and for further information on this page,

⁵⁸⁰ In Electoral Rolls (and perhaps elsewhere) the name is often Marion Catherine Surman.

⁵⁸¹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1874 11626.

⁵⁸² Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1918 5698.

⁵⁸³ See <http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au:8080/showPerson?pid=292397> for the military file. He was in the Boer War as a civilian subordinate to 38 Co ASC and see <http://naa12.naa.gov.au/scripts/imagines.asp?B=8097106&I=1&SE=1>

⁵⁸⁴ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1876 4937.

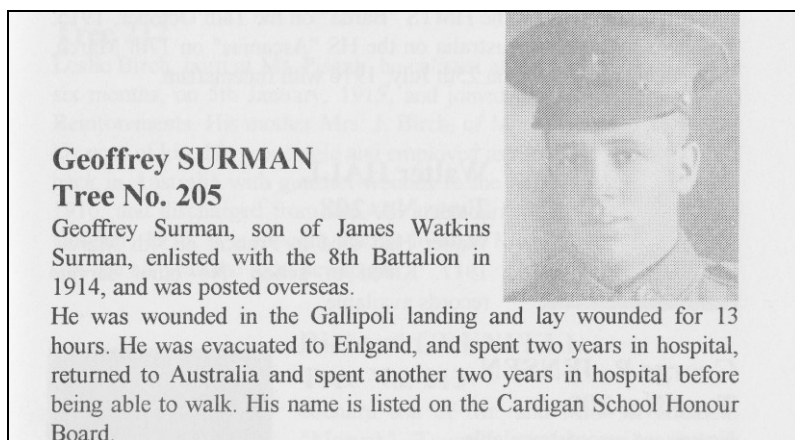
⁵⁸⁵ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1918 5986; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵⁸⁶ The AIF Project.

⁵⁸⁷ Ibidem

9. Geoffrey Eustace SURMAN (277). Geoffrey Eustace SURMAN (277) was born on 29 Jun 1878 in Sago Hill, Vic.⁵⁸⁸ He may have been a farmer at Curyo⁵⁸⁹ near Birchip in 1909. He married Winifred May Littlehailes (458), daughter of John Littlehailes (768) and Martha Young (767), on 25 Apr 1917 in St Peters Anglican, Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁹⁰ He died in Jul 1951 in Heidelberg, Vic, at age 73.⁵⁹¹ He was buried on 01 Aug 1951 in New Cemetery Area Private, Section 3 Lot 6R1, Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁹² He was a farmer, unmarried in 1914 in Cardigan, Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁹³ He began military service on 25 Aug 1914 as a private, Regimental No. 129, next of kin, brother J. O. Surman, Cardigan.⁵⁹⁴ He was a billiards professional in 1920. In 1924 he was living at 210 Sturt Street Ballarat and his profession was billiardmaker.⁵⁹⁵

He married Ethel Stella Todd (1552) in 1926.⁵⁹⁶ Ethel Stella TODD (1552) was Geoffrey's second wife and was born in 1901. There were no children of Geoffrey Eustace Surman (277) and Ethel Stella Todd (1552). They lived at 715 Sturt Street Ballarat in the 1931 Electoral roll. In the 1936 Roll he is a billiard room proprietor (she with home duties) and they are living at 10 Raglan Stret North in Ballarat.⁵⁹⁷



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Winifred May LITTLEHALES (458) was born in 1892 in Vic.⁵⁹⁸ She died circa 20 Apr 1920 in Ballarat, Vic. She was buried on 24 Apr 1920 in New Cemetery, Ballarat, Vic.⁵⁹⁹ Children of Geoffrey Eustace Surman (277) and Winifred May Littlehailes (458) both born in Ballarat, Vic, were:

⁵⁸⁸ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1878 18658; Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004.

⁵⁸⁹ Electoral Roll 1909. Curryong perhaps?

⁵⁹⁰ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1917 2043; *Ballarat BDMS CD*, register book 18/565.

⁵⁹¹ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1951 9171.

⁵⁹² Ballarat Old Cemetery records.

⁵⁹³ The AIF Project.

⁵⁹⁴ The AIF Project.

⁵⁹⁵ Electoral Roll 1924.

⁵⁹⁶ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1926 572.

⁵⁹⁷ There are further records for Ethel Stella Surman living 13 Peel Street Prahran with home duties (no mention of a husband) in 1943 Roll but by 1949 they are both there at the same address (Geoffrey now a clerk), and she stayed there after his death in 1951 as she was in the 1954 Roll.

⁵⁹⁸ Register of BDMS - Victoria, 1920 4167.

⁵⁹⁹ Ballarat Old Cemetery records.

i. Geoffrey Oswald SURMAN (4) was born in 1918.⁶⁰⁰ He was baptized on 17 Oct 1918 in St Andrews Kirk, Ballarat, Vic.⁶⁰¹ He died in Mar 1921 in Sale, Vic.⁶⁰² He was buried on 31 Mar 1921 in New Cemetery Area Private Section 3 Lot 6R1, Ballarat, Vic.⁶⁰³

ii. John Watkins SURMAN (689) was born on 10 Apr 1920.⁶⁰⁴ He was baptized on 29 Apr 1920 in St Peters Anglican, Ballarat, Vic.⁶⁰⁵ He married Audrey Barker (1551) on 28 Jun 1947.⁶⁰⁶ He died on 28 Sep 1996 in Brisbane, Qld, at age 76. He began military service on 01 Jul 1939 in Melbourne, Vic, enlisted, service number V29491, next of kin J. Surman.⁶⁰⁷ He ended military service on 24 Jul 1941 as a Private, Vic.⁶⁰⁸ He began military service again on 22 Dec 1941 in Caulfield, Vic, enlisted, service number VX66510, next of kin Geoffrey Surman.⁶⁰⁹ He ended military service on 21 Mar 1946 as a Corporal.⁶¹⁰

⁶⁰⁰ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1918 389.

⁶⁰¹ *Ballarat BDMs CD*.

⁶⁰² Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1921 3455.

⁶⁰³ Ballarat Old Cemetery records.

⁶⁰⁴ Register of BDMs - Victoria, 1920 8904; National Archives of Australia Series B883, control symbol VX66510, barcode 6115408, born 10 Apr 1920, Caulfield.

⁶⁰⁵ *Ballarat BDMs CD*.

⁶⁰⁶ Judy Meyer, 02 Aug 2004 and for further information on this page.

⁶⁰⁷ National Archives of Australia Series B884, control symbol V29491, barcode 6621239, born 10 Apr 1920, Ballarat; *Nominal Roll WW2*.

⁶⁰⁸ *Nominal Roll WW2*. (Were there medical issues involved here?)

⁶⁰⁹ National Archives of Australia Series B883, control symbol VX66510, barcode 6115408, born 10 Apr 1920, Caulfield; *Nominal Roll WW2*.

⁶¹⁰ *Nominal Roll WW2*.

iv. John GUNN (12)⁶¹¹ was born on 12 Feb 1836 in Reay Parish, Caithness.⁶¹² He was christened on 20 Feb 1836.⁶¹³ He appeared on the 1841 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of his parents Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin (1) and Barbara Gunn of Braehour (6).⁶¹⁴ He appeared on the 1851 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of Donald Gunn of Brawlbin & Ballarat (3).⁶¹⁵ He left Caithness by steamer for Glasgow, thence Liverpool on 11 Jul 1853. He emigrated on 23 Jul 1853 from Liverpool, Merseyside, per sailing ship 'Tasmania' for voyage to Australia. He arrived in Melbourne, Vic, listed in the ship's manifest as John Gum aged 24, on 25 Oct 1853. John was an impressive letter writer. It is probable that he died of sunstroke at Port Melbourne in December 1854 (or January 1855) whilst waiting for the ship carrying Donald and Catherine to arrive, but a death date of 10 January 1854 has been recorded perhaps by error.

v. William GUNN (220) was born 10 Jan 1839 in Reay Parish.⁶¹⁶ He died after June 1864 as a letter mentioning him—and written in Melbourne—exists. William was on the 1841 Census in the household of his parents. He appeared on the 1851 Census of Brawlbin, Reay Parish, Caithness, in the household of Donald Gunn of Brawlbin & Ballarat (3).⁶¹⁷ He probably emigrated on 1 July 1857 when the 'Donald McKay' left Liverpool as he arrived in Melbourne, Vic, aboard the 'Donald McKay'⁶¹⁸ of 2560 ton register carrying 595 passengers (which is the only shipping record of a William Gunn aged around 18 to travel to Melbourne between late 1854 and late 1858) in Sep 1857.⁶¹⁹ A letter from a William Gunn originally of Bualchork (3175) to Donald Gunn (3), dated 11 Oct 1858, sends regards to William (220), suggesting William (220) was near to Donald (3). But no death details are known.

⁶¹¹ *LDS Church*, Christenings of children of Barbara Gunn, father Alexander Gunn. Catherine, 18 May 1830, Halkirk; Donald, 9 Jun 1832, Reay; Janet, 19 Aug 1834, Reay; John, 29 Feb 1836, Reay.

⁶¹² Clan Gunn Parish Records: Births 1836 John Gunn, parents Alexander, Brawlbin - Barbara; UK Census 06 June 1841: District of Brawlbin lying in the south part of the Parish of Reay. Each person who abode in each house on night of 6 June 1841: Alexander Gunn 50 farmer; Barbara Gunn 30; Kathrine Gunn 11; Donald Gunn 9; John Gunn 5; Janet Gunn 7; William Gunn 2; all born in Caithness. Note: Census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual ie Alexander Gunn was between 50 and 55 and Barbara between 30 and 35 on 6 June 1841. Birth years are thus Alexander 1786-1791 and Barbara 1806-1811. The summary notes that there were 40 occupied houses, 2 uninhabited houses, 78 males and 94 females comprising 40 families in the Brawlbin District; Census 30 March 1851: County of Caithness, Parish of Reay. Residents at Brawlbin. Donald Gunn head, unmarried 19, farmer, 16 acres, born Halkirk; Katherine Gunn sister, unmarried 20, general service, born Reay; Janet Gunn sister, unmarried 17, scholar, born Reay; John Gunn brother, unmarried 15, scholar born Reay; William Gunn brother, unmarried 12, scholar born Reay. Brawlbin comprised 39 occupied houses with 70 males and 93 females. The census district of Brawlbin and Oldenbruch (?) was 12 miles in length and 2 miles in breadth. The majority of homes, 39, was in Brawlbin, with 3 in Oldenbruch accommodating 24 people; see also the *Bible page of Alexander Gunn*: John Gunn born 12 February 1836.

⁶¹³ *LDS Church*, Christenings of children of Barbara Gunn, father Alexander Gunn; Catherine, 18 May 1830, Halkirk; Donald, 9 Jun 1832, Reay; Janet, 19 Aug 1834, Reay; John, 29 Feb 1836, Reay.

⁶¹⁴ UK Census 06 June 1841: District of Brawlbin lying in the south part of the Parish of Reay. Each person who abode in each house on night of 6 June 1841: Alexander Gunn 50 farmer; Barbara Gunn 30; Kathrine Gunn 11; Donald Gunn 9; John Gunn 5; Janet Gunn 7; William Gunn 2; all born in Caithness. Note: Census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual ie Alexander Gunn was between 50 and 55 and Barbara between 30 and 35 on 6 June 1841. Birth years are thus Alexander 1786-1791 and Barbara 1806-1811. The summary notes that there were 40 occupied houses, 2 uninhabited houses, 78 males and 94 females comprising 40 families in the Brawlbin District.

⁶¹⁵ Census 30 March 1851: County of Caithness, Parish of Reay. Residents at Brawlbin. Donald Gunn head, unmarried 19, farmer, 16 acres, born Halkirk; Katherine Gunn sister, unmarried 20, general service, born Reay; Janet Gunn sister, unmarried 17, scholar, born Reay; John Gunn brother, unmarried 15, scholar born Reay; William Gunn brother, unmarried 12, scholar born Reay. Brawlbin comprised 39 occupied houses with 70 males and 93 females. The census district of Brawlbin and Oldenbruch (?) was 12 miles in length and 2 miles in breadth. The majority of homes, 39, were in Brawlbin, with 3 in Oldenbruch accommodating 24 people.

⁶¹⁶ UK Census 06 June 1841, Census 30 March 1851; *Bible page of Alexander Gunn*: William Gunn born 10 Jan 1839.

⁶¹⁷ Census 30 March 1851.

⁶¹⁸ <http://www.eraoftheclipperships.com/page55.html> for an excellent account of the clipper, along with an illustration.

⁶¹⁹ Immigration to Victoria, British Ports 1852-1859, the only shipping record of a William Gunn aged around 18 to travel to Melbourne between late 1854 and late 1858 was per the Donald McKay of 2560 ton register carrying 595 passengers. He was recorded as a labourer and travelled alone. There is a further record of a William Gunn aged 21 arriving on the Delgany in Dec 1854. There are no other possible corrupted names on this passenger list, National Archives, UK.

5. Fifth Child - George GUNN (804) was born in 1795 in Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness; unregistered. He married Ann McDonald (942), daughter of Hugh McDonald (3173) and Margaret McDonald (3174), on 09 Jan 1821 in Halkirk Parish, Sutherland. The marriage is also recorded as 29 Dec 1820 in Reay, Sutherland.⁶²⁰ He died on 19 Sep 1868 in Swiney Mains, Latheron Parish, Caithness, from disease of the liver and heart.⁶²¹ He was buried in Dirlot, Caithness.⁶²²

Ann MCDONALD (942) was born circa 1801 in Reay Parish, Sutherland. She died on 15 Apr 1878 in Swiney Mains, Latheron Parish, Caithness and was buried in Dirlot, Caithness.

Children of George Gunn of Tormsdale (804) and Ann McDonald (942) were as follows:

i. William GUNN of Bualchork (3175) was born in 1822 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 14 Aug 1822 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He died on 13 Sep 1899 in Rangag Forse⁶²³, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶²⁴ He was buried in Dirlot, Caithness.⁶²⁵ He was a Minister of the Scotland Free Church. He was a literary student in 1851 in Old Greyfriars, Edinburgh. He was an assistant manager, working with Rev. R R McKay in 1861 in E. Clyth, Latheron Parish, Caithness. He never married.

ii. Margaret GUNN (3176) was born in 1824 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She died on 15 Jun 1895 in the Hotel, Dunbeath, Caithness, while visiting her sister. She never married.

iii. Hugh GUNN (3177) was born on 07 Jul 1825 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness and christened on 08 Aug 1825 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.

iv. Janet GUNN (3193). Janet GUNN (3193)⁶²⁶ was born in 1827 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 10 Jul 1827 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She married John Mackay (3194), son of Neil Mackay (3114) and Margaret Sutherland (3115), on 18 Feb 1853 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She died on 23 Sep 1911 in Knockglass, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness. She was buried in Dorrery, Caithness.⁶²⁷ John MACKAY (3194)⁶²⁸ was born in 1811 in Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶²⁹ He was christened on 27 Dec 1811 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He died on 23 Dec 1899 in Rangag Forse, Latheron Parish, Caithness. He was buried in Dorrery, Caithness.

⁶²⁰ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 13 Sep 2008 and further information on this page.

⁶²¹ Clan Gunn Parish Records: Latheron parish 1868 George Gunn, 72 years. Married to Ann McDonald, Died 19.9.1868 at Swiney Mains disease of liver and heart Informant Donald Gunn (son) Father Donald Gunn, farmer dec. Mother Janet Gunn ms McKenzie.

⁶²² Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 13 Sep 2008; Dirlot cemetery tombstone: Tombstone No 10: George Gunn, Swiney Mains died Sept. 9, 1868; wife Ann Gunn died April 15, 1872; son Rev William Gunn died Sept 18, 1888 [1899] 76; Donald died infant; Isabella died Mar. 12, 1866 [?]; Donald Gunn 23 years, Inspector of Poor, Parish of Latheron Oct [26-28?] 1885 [1895] age 52; his wife Mary Ann Gunn Munro, Swiney House, Mar 12, 1917 age 63; Margaret Gunn June 15 1895 age 70.

⁶²³ Rangag 'is a farm / area half-way along the Causewaymire just north of Achavanich. There are a few old houses which all came under the name of Rangag' and 'Rangag is in the Forse Estate.' We presume that Rangag, Forse estate, is what is meant here.
<http://forum.caithness.org/showthread.php?t=45160>

⁶²⁴ Ibidem

⁶²⁵ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 13 Sep 2008.

⁶²⁶ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 13 Sep 2008, and for further information on this page.

⁶²⁷ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 13 Sep 2008; Dorrery cemetery tombstone: Janet Gunn, age 83, wife of John McKay, died 23/9/1911, died Knockglass, Dunbeath.

⁶²⁸ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 13 Sep 2008 and for further information on this page.

⁶²⁹ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Family of Neil McKay & Margaret Sutherland of Caithness Scotland & Ontario Canada 03 Oct 2008.

Children of Janet Gunn (3193) and John Mackay (3194) were:

1. Neil MACKAY (3202) was born say 1854. He died as an infant.
2. Ann MACKAY (3203) was born in 1856 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 24 Mar 1856 in Latheron Parish, Caithness and died in 1891 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.
3. Margaret MACKAY (3204) was born in 1857 in Latheron Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 09 Dec 1857 in Latheron Parish, Caithness.
4. Mary MACKAY (3303) was born on 06 Jan 1860 in Rangag Forse and christened on 08 Jan 1860 in Rangag Forse, Latheron Parish, Caithness.
5. John MACKAY (3207) was born in 1862 in Latheron Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 09 Apr 1862 in Latheron Parish, Caithness. He witnessed the death of John Mackay (3194) on 23 Dec 1899 in Rangag Forse, Latheron Parish, Caithness.
6. Isabella Helen MACKAY (3206) was born in 1866 in Latheron Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 13 Aug 1866 in Rangag Forse, Latheron Parish, Caithness.

v. Donald GUNN (3195) was born in 1829 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 22 Dec 1829 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness, witnesses Mary Gunn and Ann McKay. He died in Halkirk Parish, Caithness, an infant. He was buried in Dirlot, Caithness.

vi. Mary GUNN (3196) was born in 1831 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 27 Mar 1831 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She died on 10 Dec 1904 in Caithness. She appeared on the census of 1891 in the household of her sister and brother-in-law Charles M. Munro (3198) and Helen Gunn (3197). She appeared on the census of 1901 in the household of Charles M. Munro (3198) and Helen Gunn (3197).

vii. Helen GUNN (3197) was born in 1834 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She married Charles M. Munro (3198) and died on 01 Feb 1909 in Caithness. She and Charles M. Munro (3198) appeared on the censuses of 1891 and 1901.

Charles M. MUNRO (3198) was born in 1833 in Wick Parish, Caithness. He died in 1921 in Latheron Parish, Caithness. He was a farmer in Knockglass, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness. He was a hotel keeper in 1891 in Knockglass, Dunbeath Parish, Caithness. He was a farmer in 1901 at Norland Farm⁶³⁰, Caithness.

viii. Isabella GUNN (3199) was born on 07 Nov 1836 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 09 Dec 1836 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness and died on 12 Mar 1866 in Caithness at age 29. She was buried in Dirlot, Caithness.

ix. Donald GUNN (3200) was born on 10 Jul 1840 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He married Mary Ann Munro (3201). He died in 1895 in Latheron Parish, Caithness and was buried in Dirlot, Caithness. He was the informant of the death of George Gunn of Tormsdale (804) on 19 Sep 1868 in Swiney Mains, Latheron Parish, Caithness; disease of liver and heart.⁶³¹ He witnessed the death of his mother Ann McDonald (942) on 15 Apr 1878 in Swiney Mains, Latheron Parish, Caithness. He and Mary Ann Munro (3201) had no children.

⁶³⁰ <http://www.btinternet.com/~james.mckay/familyrecords/mackay5.htm> for a previous owner.

⁶³¹ Clan Gunn Parish Records: Latheron parish 1868 George Gunn, 72 years. Married to Ann McDonald Died 19.9.1868 at Swiney Mains disease of liver and heart Informant Donald Gunn (son) Father Donald Gunn, farmer dec. Mother Janet Gunn ms McKenzie.

6. Sixth Child - Donald GUNN of Bualchork (296)⁶³² was born in 1796 in Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶³³ He was christened on 19 Mar 1796 in Tormsdale, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶³⁴ He married Ann Mackay (3244) on 02 Feb 1827 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He witnessed the christening of Janet Gunn (3230) on 04 Apr 1817 in Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He and Ann Mackay (3244) appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in Achlibster⁶³⁵, Halkirk Parish, Caithness⁶³⁶ and on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶³⁷ Ann MACKAY (3244) was born circa 1809 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.

Children of Donald Gunn of Bualchork (296) and Ann Mackay (3244) were:

i. Hector GUNN (3245) was born in 1827 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 05 Dec 1827 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of his parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Achlibster, Halkirk Parish, Caithness⁶³⁸ and on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of his parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶³⁹

ii. Donald GUNN (3246) was born in 1829 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 03 Jul 1829 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of his parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Achlibster, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴⁰ He appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of his parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴¹

iii. Janet GUNN (3247) was born in 1831 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 08 Jul 1831 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness, witnesses were George McKay & Henrietta McKay of Achlibster. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Achlibster, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴² She appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of her parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴³

iv. Helen GUNN (3248) was born in 1833 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 28 Sep 1833 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household

⁶³² *LDS Church*, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk.

⁶³³ *LDS Church*, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness; Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 17 Oct 2008; the family of Donald Gunn & Ann McKay of Halkirk Scotland.

⁶³⁴ *Ibidem*

⁶³⁵ <http://her.hIGHLAND.gov.uk/FullImage.aspx?imageID=45974&uid=MHG51358> for images of a typical Achlibster cottage.

⁶³⁶ UK Census 06 June 1841: Donald Gunn 40 farmer head; Ann Gunn 30 wife; Hector Gunn 13 son; Donald Gunn 11 son; Janet Gunn 9 daughter; Helen Gunn 7 daughter; Margaret Gunn 5 daughter; John Gunn 3 son; Christina Gunn 1 daughter; all resident at Achlibster.

⁶³⁷ Census 30 March 1851: Donald Gunn 52 head farmer of 14 acres; Ann Gunn 42; Hector Gunn 22; Donald Gunn 19; Janet Gunn 17; Helen Gunn 15; Margaret Gunn 13; John Gunn 11; Christina Gunn 9; Marcus Gunn 5; all resident at Bualchork.

⁶³⁸ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁶³⁹ UK Census 30 March 1851.

⁶⁴⁰ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁶⁴¹ UK Census 30 March 1851

⁶⁴² UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁶⁴³ UK Census 30 March 1851.

of her parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Achlibster, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴⁴ She appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of her parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴⁵

v. Margaret GUNN (3249) was born in 1835 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She was christened on 29 Jun 1835 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, witnesses were Marcus Gunn and Catherine Gunn. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Achlibster, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴⁶ She appeared on the census of 30 Mar 1851 in the household of her parents Donald (296) and Ann (3244) in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴⁷

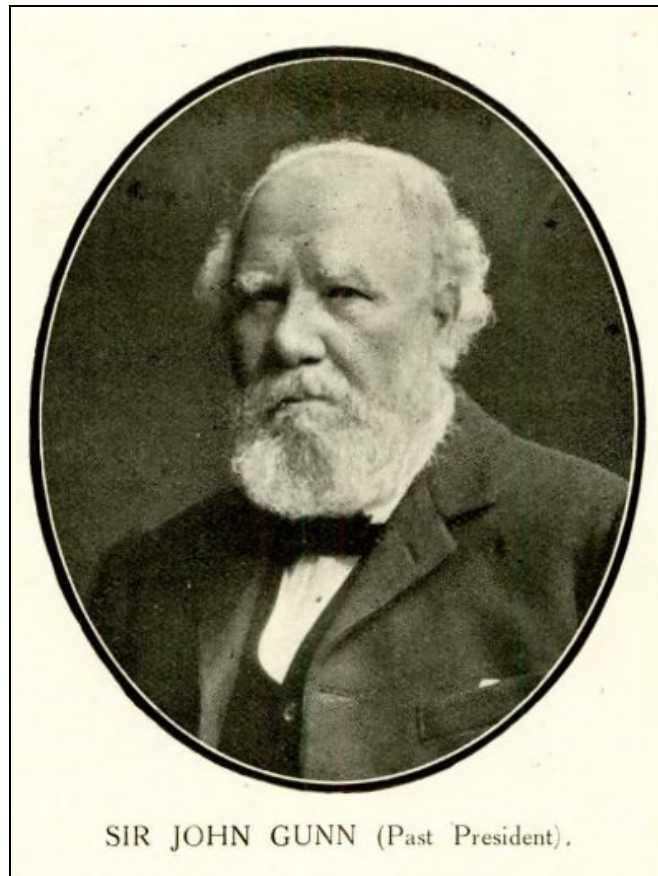
⁶⁴⁴ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁶⁴⁵ UK Census 30 March 1851.

⁶⁴⁶ UK Census 06 June 1841: Donald Gunn 40 farmer head; Ann Gunn 30 wife; Hector Gunn 13 son; Donald Gunn 11 son; Janet Gunn 9 daughter; Helen Gunn 7 daughter; Margaret Gunn 5 daughter; John Gunn 3 son; Christina Gunn 1 daughter; all resident at Achlipster.

⁶⁴⁷ UK Census 30 March 1851: Donald Gunn 52 head farmer of 14 acres; Ann Gunn 42; Hector Gunn 22; Donald Gunn 19; Janet Gunn 17; Helen Gunn 15; Margaret Gunn 13; John Gunn 11; Christina Gunn 9; Marcus Gunn 5; all resident at Bualchork.

vi. Sir John Gunn of Tormsdale, 1837 - 1918



Sir John Gunn of Tormsdale⁶⁴⁸ was the son of Donald Gunn of Bualchork and Ann Mackay. This meant he was the nephew of Alexander Gunn of Bualchork and Brawlbin 1789 – 1847 who married Barbara Gunn of Braehour 1810 – 1844.

Sir John Gunn of Tormsdale was born on 28 October 1837 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened 4 November 1837 at Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was one of eight children. He died on 20 January 1918 in Cardiff, Glamorgan, aged 80. He married twice - first to Sarah Jane Hill in 1871 in Cardiff, Glamorgan, she died in 1875. He then married Harriette Boyle in 1877 in Belfast. Harriette Boyle was born circa 1846 in Ballymacrea, Antrim. She died in 1914 in Newport, Monmouthshire.

⁶⁴⁸ Further information can be found at 'John O'Groat Journal' 8th February, 1918 (or the *South Wales Daily News* of a little earlier). *Who Was Who 1916-1928* and *Who's Who 1903*. For Sir John Gunn (1916 – 2002) the renowned mathematician and physicist see <https://www.heraldscotland.com/news/11953833.sir-john-gunn-university-professor-who-specialised-in-science-research/>



Achlibster farm, 2011. 'Achlibster' is presumed to mean the farm, no village exists today

Sir John Gunn appeared on the census of 6 June 1841 in the household of his parents Donald and Ann in Achlibster, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁴⁹ He also appeared on the census of 30 March 1851 at the same place.⁶⁵⁰ He was educated at Halkirk⁶⁵¹ and had dreams of becoming a lawyer.

At seventeen he moved to Cardiff and entered the drapery business in which he was very successful and so had the capital to move into ship-owning. He also *'was a partner of J. Bland & Co., timber merchants, and to his connection with this firm, of which he was chairman for some years, its progressive advancement was largely due... Sir John was also a director of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Co... He also represented the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce on Lloyd's Register of shipping, as a member of the committee. Sir John Gunn took considerable interest in the operations of the Institute of Marine Engineers, and was associated with the meetings held in Cardiff in connection with the resident membership. He was President of the Institute during the session 1903-4.'*⁶⁵²

He was also a Kirk elder at Roath Park Presbyterian Church (now St Andrew's United Reformed Church). He was, presumably, buried there in a vault on 24 January 1918. He was also a J.P..

And from another biography -

The Mount Stuart Dry Dock (and Engineering Company) was ... acquired in 1872 by a syndicate of which John Gunn was the principal promoter. Two years later, John was joined by his brother, Marcus who acted as manager ...

... the two brothers ... decided to enter shipowning themselves when they took delivery of the 1,481 gross tons iron steamer "Dunedin" ... By 1892, John and Marcus Gunn & Co. of 11 Mount Stuart Square, owned a further three vessels: the iron steamers "Cornelia" (894 gross tons, built 1872), "Dunbar" (1,774 gross tons, built 1876), and "Dunkeld" (2,791 gross tons, built 1880). (Technically owned by John and

⁶⁴⁹ UK Census 06 June 1841: Donald Gunn 40 farmer head; Ann Gunn 30 wife; Hector Gunn 13 son; Donald Gunn 11 son; Janet Gunn 9 daughter; Helen Gunn 7 daughter; Margaret Gunn 5 daughter; John Gunn 3 son; Christina Gunn 1 daughter; all resident at Achlipster.

⁶⁵⁰ UK Census 30 March 1851: Donald Gunn 52 head farmer of 14 acres; Ann Gunn 42; Hector Gunn 22; Donald Gunn 19; Janet Gunn 17; Helen Gunn 15; Margaret Gunn 13; John Gunn 11; Christina Gunn 9; Marcus Gunn 5; all resident at Bualchork.

⁶⁵¹ See <https://library.imarest.org/record/1070/files/1062.pdf> accessed 8 July 2024 for further details used in this biography.

⁶⁵² See <https://library.imarest.org/record/1070/files/1062.pdf> accessed 8 July 2024 for further details used in this biography.

Marcus Gunn & Co.). ... *The Gunns' tramp steamers were employed in the coal trade ... The Gunns were involved in a cut-throat business ...* (Steamers owned included the 'Lorna Doone' 1896-1898.)

(John Gunn) was elected as president of the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce in 1886 and 1887 and again in 1897. In 1891 he was chairman of the Cardiff Shipowners' Association. As well as being chairman of the timber importers, John Bland & Co. Ltd., John Gunn held a number of directorships and he was to be found on the boards of the Cardiff Railway Company, the Bristol and West of England Bank, Cardiff Collieries⁶⁵³ (Llanbradach) Ltd. and several other public companies.

... In 1892 he unsuccessfully contested a Cardiff constituency on the Unionist ticket.⁶⁵⁴ For several years he was a member of Cardiff Town Council⁶⁵⁵ and in June 1898 ... the Cardiff Caledonian Society, of which he was founder, held a special banquet in celebration of the knighthood conferred upon him ... (he was) the principal founder of the Presbyterian Church in Windsor Place of which he was the senior elder for many years...

The Gunns' fleet of steamers always remained a modest one ... and by 1899 they had sold the elderly steamers "Cornelia", "Dunbar", and "Dunkeld", leaving them with their first ship, the "Dunedin". In 1903 the "Dunedin" was sold and was replaced by the "Renwick" (664 gross tons, built 1890) which in turn was sold two years later. For their subsequent tramp steamers, the Gunns adopted the limited liability system of ship ownership in which the ownership of each vessel was turned into a limited liability company. ... Honouring their birthplace in Caithness, the Gunn brothers had the steel screw steamer "Achlibster" (4,395 gross tons) built for them in 1906 by Richardson, Duck & Co. of Stockton-on-Tees. Her owners were the Achlibster S. S. Co. Ltd. and was managed by the Gunn brothers. A similar steamer, the "Bilbster", owned by the Bilbster. S. S. Co. Ltd., followed from the same builders in 1908.

In 1911 the managership ... was taken over by A. H. and E. Gunn. Arthur H. Gunn was one of Sir John's three sons (he also had six daughters) and I can only assume that E. Gunn was a son of Marcus Gunn⁶⁵⁶. The younger Gunns added a third ship to the fleet, the steel screw steamers, "Chalister", which was built in 1913 by D. & W. Henderson & Co. Ltd., Partick, Glasgow. The "Chalister" was a typical shelter deck tramp steamer and was employed in the deep sea tramping trades throughout her career which lasted until 1942. She had a large cargo carrying capacity but like many such ships, she was underpowered and able to maintain only 8½ knots on 34 tons of coal per day.

The year in which the "Chalister" was built marked the peak of Cardiff's coal exporting prosperity when a staggering 10,576,506 tons of coal was exported. ... During the war itself, many ships were requisitioned by the Admiralty to serve as colliers which were needed to replenish the bunkers of the Royal Navy's warships. The s.s. "Bilbster" was requisitioned to perform this role While the "Achlibster" and "Chalister" survived the war, the "Bilbster" was not so fortunate because she was lost after a collision, east of the Azores on 21st November, 1917⁶⁵⁷.

⁶⁵³ In 1915, at least. See <https://welshcoalmines.co.uk/GlamEast/Llanbradach.htm> accessed 8 July 2024.

⁶⁵⁴ He lost by 686 votes to Edward Reed of the Liberal Party.

⁶⁵⁵ Certainly for 1883-1884. See <https://www.british-history.ac.uk/cardiff-records/vol5/pp84-97> accessed 8 July 2024.

⁶⁵⁶ He was correct in this assumption; Ernest Gunn (3329) 1878-1916 was a son of Marcus Gunn and Mary Elizabeth Yeandle (3329).

⁶⁵⁷ <http://newspapers.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/15614673?searchTerm=Gunn> from a 1915 article concerning the 'Bilbster'; it carried 6710 tons of metal from the Australian Metal Company consigned to a company to London but really destined for Germany. The claim was whether the Gunns could claim the freight or whether it belonged to the Crown. It was reported in London on September 17. In October 'The Argus' of 8 October reports that J. and M. Gunn would get £2,546 of the proceeds and also see 'The Argus' of 20 September 1915, page 7.

Sir John Gunn died on 20th January, 1918 ...

A. H. & E. Gunn sold the "Achlibster" and "Chalister" in 1919 and never resumed shipowning although A. H. Gunn continued as a director of the Mount Stuart Dry Locks Ltd. ...

On exhibition in the 20th Century Merchant Shipping Gallery in the East Wing of the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich is a builders' half-model of the s.s. "Chalister".⁶⁵⁸



In storage at 'The Historic Dockyard' in Chatham, Kent, is a builders' half-model of the s.s. "Chalister". It is available for viewing if one requests in advance.



S.S. Chalister. Reproduced with permission⁶⁵⁹.

⁶⁵⁸ Being from P. R. Myers, "Sir John Gunn, the Cardiff Business Entrepreneur from Caithness," *The Caithness Field Club Journal* (October 1983). I have seen the model, 2010.

⁶⁵⁹ Copyright <http://www.clydebuiltships.co.uk> and <http://www.clydesite.co.uk> (except where otherwise stated). Extracts from the database may be used so long as credit is given to this website with a full url published in printed material...

Children of Sir John Gunn of Tormsdale and Sarah Jane Hill, all born in Cardiff, Glamorgan, were –

1.1 John Donald Gunn was born in 1872. He died in 1872 in Cardiff, Glamorgan.

1.2 Herbert Oswald Gunn was born in 1873.

1.3 Arthur Hill Gunn was born in 1875. He and Ernest Gunn (the eldest son of Marcus Gunn – the brother to Sir John Gunn) took over managership of the ships ‘Achlibster’ and ‘Bilbster’ from John and Marcus Gunn in 1911 in Cardiff, Glamorgan and added the steel screw steamer ‘Chalister’ to the family fleet in 1913. They sold the ‘Achlibster’ and ‘Chalister’ in 1919 and never resumed shipowning. Arthur remained a director of the Mount Stuart Dry Locks Ltd in 1919 in Cardiff, Glamorgan.

Children of Sir John Gunn of Tormsdale and Harriette Boyle also all born in Cardiff, were:

2.1 Annie Boyle GUNN was born in 1879. She married Frederick George Penny 20 July 1905 in Cardiff, Glamorgan. (He was created 1st Viscount Marchwood, of Penang, and of Marchwood, co. Southampton on 13 September 1945.) She died 20 April 1957. Descendants.

2.2 Winifred Mackay GUNN was born in 1879. She married Francis Brodie Lodge, son of Sir Oliver Joseph Lodge and Mary Fanny Alexander Marshall, in 1909 in Cardiff, Glamorgan. They divorced in 1928. Francis Brodie LODGE was born in 1880. He died in 1967. He and Alec Lodge took out a patent for an improved system of high tension ignition for motor vehicles in 1903⁶⁶⁰. He and Alec Lodge formed a partnership, Lodge Bros, in 1904 at 4 New Street, Birmingham, West Midlands. They opened their first workshop in 1907 in Wrentham Street, Birmingham, West Midlands. Francis was the founder, with his brother Alec, of the Lodge Plug Company, manufacturer of spark plugs for cars and aeroplanes. He assembled one of the world's largest collections of Chinese ceramics and bronzes.

2.3 Olive Mildred GUNN was born in 1881.

2.4 Elsie Maud GUNN was born in 1882.

2.5 Hester Boyle GUNN was born in 1885.

2.6 John Boyle GUNN was born in 1888.

2.7 Marjorie Lilian GUNN was born in 1889. She married Frederic Stratton in 1913 in Cardiff, Glamorgan.

⁶⁶⁰ See <http://www.macrugby.com/history-lodge.htm> for further details about the Lodge family.

vii. Marcus Gunn 1842 – 1899

Marcus Gunn was a younger brother of Sir John Gunn and was born on 5 May 1842 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened 9 May 1842 at the same place. He married Mary Elizabeth Yeandle in 1877 in Shurdington, Gloucestershire. She was born in 1855. The children of Marcus Gunn and Mary Elizabeth Yeandle, all born in Cardiff, Glamorgan, were:

1. Ernest Gunn was born in 1878. He died in 1916 in Cardiff, Glamorgan. Ernest and Arthur Hill Gunn, a son of Sir John Gunn, took over managership of the ships Achlibster and Bilbster from John & Marcus Gunn in 1911 in Cardiff, Glamorgan. He and Arthur Hill Gunn added the steel screw steamer 'Chalister' to the family fleet in 1913. He and Arthur Hill Gunn sold the 'Achlibster' and 'Chalister' in 1919 and never resumed shipowning.
2. Beatrice McKay Gunn was born in 1880.
3. Marcus Sinclair Gunn was born in 1890.

Marcus appeared on the census of 30 March 1851 in the household of his parents Donald and Ann in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁶¹ He was appointed manager of the Mount Stuart Dry Dock in 1874 in Cardiff, Glamorgan. He and Sir John Gunn were the owners of four ships, 'Dunedin', 'Cornelia', 'Dunbar' and 'Dunkeld' in 1892 owned by 'John and Marcus Gunn & Co.'. He and Sir John Gunn had the 4395 gross ton 'Achlibster' built in honour of their birthplace in 1906. He and Sir John Gunn had the 'Bilbster', similar to the 'Achlibster', built in 1908. He was present when Arthur Hill Gunn and Ernest Gunn took over managership of the ships 'Achlibster' and 'Bilbster' from John and Marcus Gunn in 1911 in Cardiff, Glamorgan. He was present when Arthur Hill Gunn and Ernest Gunn added the steel screw steamer 'Chalister' to the family fleet in 1913. Marcus died in September 1899 in Cardiff, Glamorgan, at age 57. He was a strong supporter of the Cardiff Free Library, there was a bust of him donated to that Library.

Newspaper obituary for Marcus Gunn

"The South Wales Daily News reported in 1899 the death, after a short illness, of Marcus Gunn, a native of Caithness and one of the most prominent business men in Cardiff. He was 54 years of age and best known in commercial circles outside Cardiff as a member of the firm of J. and M. Gunn, shipowners, his partner being his brother, Sir John Gunn. The firm was largely interested in the Mountstuart Dry Dock Company, who were entrusted with the work of raising the *City of Paris* from the Falmouth. The firm was also interested in Bland & Co. Timber merchants as well as other local enterprises. A remarkably able business man Marcus was often invited to devote time to public work, but the Free Library and Infirmary were the only institutions in whose management he took an active interest. His private library contained many rare volumes. He was born at Westerdale, Caithness in 1845 and went to South Wales in 1864 as representative of a manufacturing firm in the North of England. After a short absence, when he filled the position of representative of an engineering firm at Glasgow he returned to Cardiff to join his brother in business at the Mountstewart Dry Dock and Engineering Works, subsequently becoming a partner in the undertaking. At the time of his death he was one of the directors of the company, as well as a director of Bland & Co. He left a widow and ... children, the eldest son having attained his majority."

"Northern Ensign", undated, 1903

⁶⁶¹ UK Census 30 March 1851: Donald Gunn 52 head farmer of 14 acres; Ann Gunn 42; Hector Gunn 22; Donald Gunn 19; Janet Gunn 17; Helen Gunn 15; Margaret Gunn 13; John Gunn 11; Christina Gunn 9; Marcus Gunn 5; all resident at Bualchork.

Descendants of Sir John Gunn and Marcus Gunn

— **John GUNN (Sir)** of Tormsdale, b. 28 Oct 1837 Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. 20 Jan 1918 Cardiff, Glamorgan

+Sarah Jane HILL, m. 1871 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1875

— John Donald GUNN, b. 1872 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1872 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Herbert Oswald GUNN, b. 1873 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Arthur Hill GUNN, b. 1875 Cardiff, Glamorgan

+Harriette BOYLE, b. c. 1846 Ballymacrea, Antrim, m. 1877 Belfast, d. 1914 Newport, Monmouthshire

— Annie Boyle GUNN, b. 1879 Cardiff, Glamorgan

+Frederick George PENNY, m. 1905 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Winifred Mackay GUNN, b. 1879 Cardiff, Glamorgan

+Francis Brodie LODGE, b. 1880, m. 1909 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1967

— Olive Mildred GUNN, b. 1881 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Elsie Maud GUNN, b. 1882 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Hester Boyle GUNN, b. 1885 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— John Boyle GUNN, b. 1888 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Marjorie Lilian GUNN, b. 1889 Cardiff, Glamorgan

+Frederic STRATTON, m. 1913 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— **Marcus GUNN**, b. 5 May 1842 Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness, d. Sep 1899 Cardiff, Glamorgan

+Mary Elizabeth YEANDLE, b. 1855, m. 1877 Shurdington, Gloucestershire

— Ernest GUNN, b. 1878 Cardiff, Glamorgan, d. 1916 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Beatrice McKay GUNN, b. 1880 Cardiff, Glamorgan

— Marcus Sinclair GUNN, b. 1890 Cardiff, Glamorgan

Ships / boats owned by J. and M. Gunn

‘Caledon’; 384 gross tonnage and 303 net tonnage. 127.2 x 25.5 x 14.8 feet. She was a three mast planked on iron frame vessel. She was completed in August 1866 in Middlesborough by Harkass for Jones Bros. and named the **‘R.H. Jones’**. In around 1875 she was sold to R. Cowell and Co of Cardiff who renamed her **‘Richard Cowell’**. She was surveyed in Cardiff in 1878 and acquired by J. and M. Gunn who renamed it the **‘Caledon’**. She was not in the Lloyds Register after 1884.

‘Dunedin’; 2,284 gross tonnage and 1,412 net tonnage. 286 x 37.3 x 22.9 feet. She was an iron steamship, compound two cylinders by the builders. She was completed in September 1883 by W. Doxford and Sons, Sunderland for J. and M. Gunn as the **‘Dunedin’**. In 1901 she was sold to the Bank of Athens and renamed the **‘Beeby’**. She was wrecked in 1908.

‘Dunbar’; 1,812 gross tonnage and 1,182 net tonnage. 280.2 x 34.0 x 24.0 feet. She was an iron steamship, compound two cylinders by R. Stephenson and Co. Newcastle. She was completed by W. Doxford and Sons, Sunderland for Farnham and Co. Newcastle and called **‘Peer of the Realm’**. She was acquired J. and M. Gunn in 1885 and called the **‘Dunbar’**, after various other companies had briefly owned her. She was posted missing in March 1898 on a voyage from Theodisia to Leith, with a cargo of barley.

‘Dunkeld’; 2,796 gross tonnage and 2,117 net tonnage. 320.8 x 40.5 x 23.2 feet. She was an iron steamship, compound two cylinders by the builders. She was completed in 1880 by A. Stephens and Co. Glasgow and Called **‘Katie’**. First trace of an owner is in 1887 wher she was owned by Christopher Furness. In 1889 J. and M. Gunn acquired her and renamed her **‘Dunkeld’**. She was lost east of Lobos Island, Uruguay, when on a voyage from Barry Dock, Wales, to Buenos Aires with a cargo of coal. (Check a map; they must all have walked to land!)

‘Cornelia’; 903 gross tonnage, 553 net tonnage. 220.3 x 29.2 x 16.3 feet. She was an iron steamship, compound two cylinders by T. Richardson and Sons, Hartlepool. She was completed in January 1872 by Denton, Grays and Co. West Hartlepool for Fritz Herskind of West Hartlepool and was called the **‘Cornelia’**. In 1886 the owners became Herskind and Woods. In 1889 she was acquired by J. and M. Gunn. On 13 August 1897 she was sold to Cornelia Steamship Co. Ltd. of Cardiff, being Guthrie, Heywood and Co. She was then sold to William Monroe of Cardiff on 8 May 1900. On 6 March 1917 she was captured by SM UC-43 (being a German Type 11 mine-laying submarine) and sunk by gunfire nine miles northwest of the Skelligs whilst on a voyage from Oporto to Cardiff with a cargo of pitwood. The SM UC-43 was sunk four days later at Muckle Flugga.

‘Renwick’; 664 gross tonnage, 402 net tonnage. 180 x 28.1 x 13.7 feet. She was a steel steamship; 3 cylinders by N.E. Marine Engineering Co of Newcastle. She was completed by Tyne 1 Shipbuilders of Newcastle for Renwick S.S. Co. (Fisher, Renwick and Co.) as **‘Renwick’**. March 1903 she was stranded and wrecked. She was acquired by Sir John Gunn on 1 April 1904 and sold on 14 May 1906 to R. M. Horne-Payne of Walbrook, London which became the Renwick Co. Ltd (H.W. Harding) of Newcastle in c. 1907. She was sunk by collision in December 1911.

‘Coronation’; 2,461 gross tonnage, 1,574 net tonnage. 286 x 40.7 x 18.2 feet. She was a steel steamship; 3 cylinders by Hutson and Son, Glasgow. She was completed by Grangemouth Dockyard Co in July 1894 for Macbeth and Gray, Glasgow and named **‘Dunblane’**. In 1894 she was sold to M. Angel Cardiff and reamed

the '**Phyllis Angel**'. On 26 May 1902 she was acquired by Sir John Gunn and renamed the '**Coronation**'. In 1903 she was on sold and renamed the '**Wilhelmine**'. There is no record of her in Lloyds Register after 1904; perhaps she went to the Netherlands given the last name?

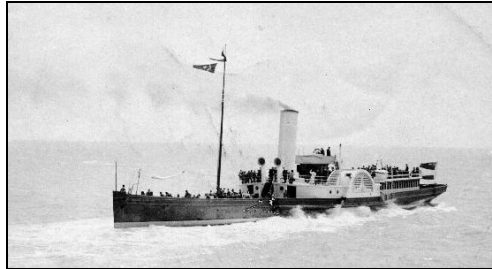
'**Achlibster**'; 4,395 gross tonnage and 2,820 net tonnage. 355.2 x 51.1 x 26.8 feet. She was a steel steamship; 3 cylinders by Blair and Co. Ltd. of Stockton-on-Tees. She was completed February 1906 by Richardson, Duck and Co. Stockton for Achlibster S.S. Co. Ltd (J. and M. Gunn and Co. Cardiff). She was later sold to Humphries of Cardiff and renamed '**Glofield**'. In c. 1927 she was then sold to Watts, Watts and Co and renamed '**Hampstead**'. Later she was sold to N. A. Cottakis of Greece and renamed '**Alecos**'. She was wrecked in 1935.

'**Bilbster**'; 4,478 gross tonnage and 2,790 net tonnage. 355.4 x 51.1 x 26.8 feet. She was a steel steamship; 3 cylinders by Blair and Co. Ltd. Stockton. She was completed January 1908 by Richardson, Duck and Co. of Stockton-on-Tees for Bilbster S.S. Co Ltd. (J. and M. Gunn Cardiff). In 1915 she was on Lloyds Register for A.H. Gunn and in 1917 for A.H. and E. Gunn. There are reports that she was naval collier during the First World War but another source says she carried oil fuel; she may have done both. On approximately 21 November 1919 she was lost in a collision east of the Azores.

'**Chalister**'; 5,344 gross tonnage and 3,369 net tonnage. She was a steel shelter deck steamship; 3 cylinders by the builders. She was completed by D. and W. Henderson and Co.Ltd of Glasgow for Chalister S.S. Co. Ltd (J. and M. Gunn and Co. Ltd.) in August 1913. In 1917 (possibly 1919) she was sold to Anglo-Newfoundland S.S. Co and in 1920 then sold to R.McLelland of Kingston, Ontario, Canada. She was then sold to Adam Bros., of Greenock in 1922. In 1924 she was sold to Turnbull, Scott Shipping and renamed the '**Haggersgate**'. In March 1936 she was sold to Seerederei Frigga of Germany and renamed the '**Hodur**'. On 20 April 1943 she was sunk by HM submarine 'Trident' northwest of Namsos, Norway.

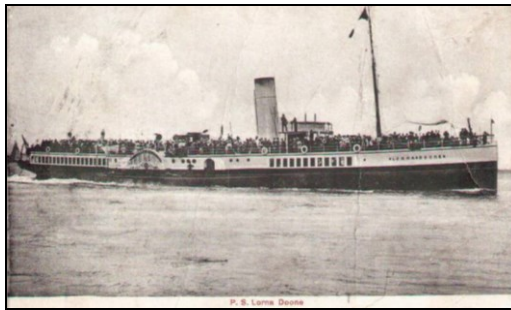
John Gunn and Co. registered vessels 1896-1899.

These vessels were leased / hired. **‘Bonnie Doon’** a steam paddle steamer; 272 gross tonnage and 81 net tonnage. The builders were T. B. Scath and Co, in 1876; 1 cylinder by A. Campbell and Sons Glasgow. She was registered by John Gunn in October 1896 and certainly by 1899 was in other hands. She ‘early on acquired the nickname ‘Bonnie Beakdoon’⁶⁶²’. She was broken up in 1913 in Rotterdam.



S.S. Bonnie Doon

‘Lorna Doone’ was a steam paddle steamer; 427 gross tonnage and 83 net tonnage. 220.05 x 26 x 9.2 feet; 2 cylinders by D. Rowan and Son Glasgow. In the name of J. Gunn October 1896, by 1899 sold to the Isle of Wight Steam Packet Co.



P.S. Lorna Doone

‘Lord Tredegar’ was an iron paddle steamer; 179 gross tonnage and 12 net tonnage. 192.1 x 18 x 7.4 feet. The vessel was completed by Fullerton and Co. Paisley for Lochgoil Steamboat company, named **‘Carrick Castle’**. It was also renamed **‘Lady Margaret’** in 1888 and then **‘Lord Tredegar’** in 1896. It was in the name of John Gunn in October 1896 as **‘Lord Tredegar.’**

‘Scotia’ was an iron paddle steamer; 303 gross tonnage and 38 net tonnage. 211.2 x 21.8 x 8.3 feet. The vessel was in the name of John Gunn in October 1896 Lloyds Register. In 1903 she became the **‘Principessa Mafalda Epomea’**.

‘Rover’ was an iron paddle steamer; 188 gross tonnage and 87 net tonnage. 140.6 x 20.1 x 8.2 feet. She was originally called the **‘Chepstow’** and built in 1874 for the Great Western Railway Co. She was in the name of John Gunn in 1896. It was wrecked in 1896.

viii. George GUNN (3253) was born on 05 May 1842 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 09 May 1842 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁶³ He died before 1851 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁶⁴ George and Marcus were twins.

⁶⁶² http://website.lineone.net/~tom_lee/bonnie.dooning.htm

⁶⁶³ Ibidem

7. Seventh Child - William GUNN, Jamaica (297)⁶⁶⁵ was born in 1799 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁶⁶ He was christened on 12 Mar 1799 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁶⁷ It is thought that he emigrated to Jamaica.

There is a tradition of emigration and it begins with Donald Gunn (262) of Tormsdale's wife, Janet McKenzie (703), more accurately with her brother William McKenzie who had been in Jamaica for some time by 1819. Letters addressed to Alexander from William McKenzie, see the Contents pages. The following, we suspect, was written by William Gunn.

Golden State September 4th 1819-

My Dear Parents

I have arived here on July 14th and we had avery good Passage of six weeks and three days Sailing to Kingstown and I was fourteen days there along with the rest of the Passsnters which was about ten; and Eight of them fell sick in the Course of three days after Coming there and died before I left them which left me verry sorry to see them buried there. But Blessed be God for it. I never had yet as much as asore head since I came here, and the Place that I am in just now its avery good place(/) but avery unhealthy Place there Died here the last year Seven White People what we Call buckies Herd this his the unhealthiest time here becuse sometimes it is so verry hot here that the sweeting will be Pouring down from your body in to your shoes and Perhaps in an hours time it will rain sometimes Continues for amonth and there is not adrop...rain but what is as if ...Jamaica his nothing Besides what you are hearing of it A Man that behaves himself oberly and keeps himself in a gentlemans way will get Employment and good wages of about 80£ currency but then Every thing is very Dear here which takes away the wages for instance you will not get abreakfast here under ten shillings dinner twice that And anights lodging without ten and apair of shoes will Cost £1.10 the cheapest and then where is the wages and that Pair will keep only a Month when it burns and wastes away and Clothes likewise But if I was as well acquaint with Jamaica as I am just now I would been better aforded for it For the best Gentleman here wears only a tartan Coat and Every thing Else according to the sun. My Dear brother; Alexr. was wishing to come here but I am afraid that he would not live long here but however if has gone to school as he was saying to ... he would do here but a man without School . Need ... once here. But I am determined....

So, we believe this to be addressed to Donald Gunn (262) and his wife Janet (703) and we believe that the Alexander discusssed is Alexander (1). Why? Firstly, given the letters by William Mackenzie and his wife (probably) we see that Alexander was clearly thinking of emigrating at one point and this letter supports it.

⁶⁶⁴ Ibidem

⁶⁶⁵ Ibidem

⁶⁶⁶ Ibidem

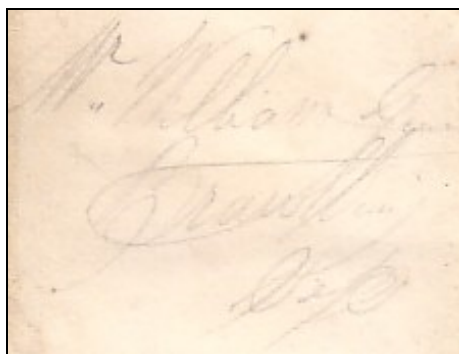
⁶⁶⁷ Ibidem

Golden Mile September 4th 1819
My Dear Parents

I have arrived here on July 14th and we had a very good passage of six weeks and three days sailing to King's and was fourteen days there along with the rest of the Papenets which was about Ten; and Eight of them fell sick in the course of three days after coming there and died before I left them which left me very sorry to see them buried there. But Blessed be God for it. I never had yet as much as now since I came here, and the place that I am in just now is a very good place but a very unhealthy place there died here the last year seven White People what we call beeches - And this is the unhealthy time here because sometimes it is so very hot here that the sweating will be flowing down from your body in to your shoes and perhaps in an hour's time it will rain sometimes continues for a month and there is not a drop of rain but what is

I am sure his nothing. Besides what you are saying of it. A Man
 that behaves himself wisely and keeps himself in
 a gentleman's way will get Employment and good wages
 of about 80 £ Currency but then Every thing is very Dear
 here which takes away the wages for instance you will not
 get breakfast for less under ten Shillings dinner twice
 that And an nights Lodging without ten Shillings and a pair
 of Shoes will Cost £1.10th the cheapest and then where is
 the wages and that I am will last only a Month when it
 burns and wastes away and Clothes likewise But if
 I was as well acquainted with Jamaica as I am just now
 I would be better afforded for it For the best Gentlemen
 here wear only a tartan Coat and Every thing else
 according to the mode. My Dear Brother Sir was wishing
 to come here but I am afraid that he would not live
 long here but however if has gone to school as he was
 saying to me he would do here but anon without
 school. Had we a home here But I am determined

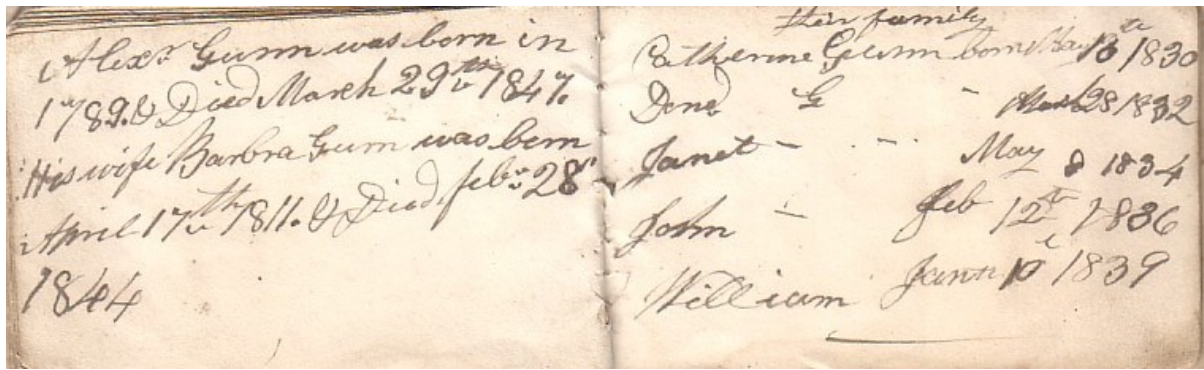
There is also a small booklet in which William recorded (in now faded light pencil) some early dates and some thoughts about the greatness of man and basic algebra.



The light pencil signature of William Gunn Brawlbin
 being one of three in the small booklet.

Also recorded were the marriage dates for George Dunbar and William Brims (see page 137) who were both married on the 24 December 1852. This is annoying as one assumes that William Gunn stayed in Jamaica. The notebook is held by a descendant of Donald Gunn who emigrated to Australia. The writing about the marriages is similar to William's, but so was all handwriting at this time... Perhaps William left the notebook when he left home and someone else later used it.

The most obviously useful part of this notebook is the confirmation of birth and death dates—



It is the only one in ink. It also spells Barbara inaccurately. It does not look like the light pencil writing associated with William (nor is it as fluent as the letter on the preceding pages).

So, William disappears from view but perhaps somewhere in Jamaica there may be Gunns (and Mackenzies)...

8. Eighth Child - Christian GUNN, Owen Sound (602)⁶⁶⁸ was born in Jan 1802 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁶⁹ She was christened on 30 Jan 1802 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁷⁰ She married Alexander Sutherland of Inshag⁶⁷¹ (3119) on 23 Dec 1825 in Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁷² She witnessed the christening of Janet Gunn (3230) on 04 Apr 1817 in Inishmull, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. She and Alexander (3119) appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁷³ She and Alexander (3119) emigrated in 1842 to Owen Sound, Canada. Christian (602) and Alexander (3119) appeared on the census of 1881 in Zorra East, Oxford North, Ontario. Census quotes Christian as aged 75, Presbyterian, in 1881.

Alexander SUTHERLAND of Inshag (3119) was born around 1800 in Caithness. He was a farmer whose concession was close to both Marcus (298) and Donald Gunn (3215) on 03 Nov 1845 in Lot 6, 11th Concession, Owen Sound, Ontario.⁶⁷⁴ The census records Alexander (3119) as a farmer aged 88(?), Presbyterian in 1881.

For letters from Marcus Gunn (298) see the Contents.

Children of Christian Gunn of Owen Sound (602) and Alexander Sutherland of Inshag (3119) were:

i. Christina SUTHERLAND (3130)⁶⁷⁵ was born in 1826 in Latheron Parish, Caithness. She married John Munroe (3166) say 1850. She died in 1910. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Alexander (3119) and Christian (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁷⁶ She and Ellen Sutherland (3120), Donald Sutherland (3127), Ann Sutherland (3129), Janet Sutherland (3131), and Catherine Sutherland (3133) emigrated with her parents in 1842 to Owen Sound, Canada. She was serving in the village for \$4 a month on 14 Jul 1846. **See the letter from Marcus Gunn in the next biography.**

ii. Donald SUTHERLAND (3127) was born in 1828 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. He died in 1856. He appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of his parents Alexander (3119) and

⁶⁶⁸ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 14 Aug 2008; In the letters you will note Alexander Sutherland. He was married to Christian (Christina) Gunn born 1802. They had 8 children. I descend from their daughter Ellen who married Hugh Gordon, their son Alex named for his grandfather Alexander Sutherland, his daughter Ellen was my mother; *LDS Church*, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk.

⁶⁶⁹ *LDS Church*, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk.

⁶⁷⁰ Ibidem

⁶⁷¹ 'Inshag' has nearly disappeared; it's at 58.419211N, 3.460216W and had four buildings in 1747-1755.

http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/search_item/index.php?service=RCAHMS&id=8251

⁶⁷² *International Genealogical Index (IGI)*, Batch 7113908 Sheet 40.

⁶⁷³ UK Census 06 June 1841: Alexander Sutherland, cooper, 45; Christy Sutherland, 30; Christy Sutherland, 15; Donald Sutherland, 13; Ann Sutherland, 11; Jannet Sutherland, 9; Hellen Sutherland, 6; Williamina Sutherland, 4; Cathrine Sutherland, 2 and Marcus Gunn, 25. Note that census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual.

⁶⁷⁴ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 07 Aug 2008; Their farm was lot 6, 11th concession only a short distance from the farms of both Marcus and Donald Gunn.

⁶⁷⁵ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 07 Aug 2008; I descend from Alexander and Christian a.k.a. Christina Gunn Sutherland. Unfortunately their 2 sons died unmarried. The daughters ... are: Christina, Ann, Janet, plus the following: Ellen, Wilhemina, Catherine (Kate). All were born in Scotland except for the youngest son John who was born 1842 in Wentworth County, Ontario. Their son Donald was # 2 in the family born in 1829.

⁶⁷⁶ UK Census 06 June 1841: Alexander Sutherland, cooper, 45; Christy Sutherland, 30; Christy Sutherland, 15; Donald Sutherland, 13; Ann Sutherland, 11; Jannet Sutherland, 9; Hellen Sutherland, 6; Williamina Sutherland, 4; Cathrine Sutherland, 2 and Marcus Gunn, 25.

Christian (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁷⁷ He and Ellen Sutherland (3120), Ann Sutherland (3129), Christina Sutherland (3130), Janet Sutherland (3131), and Catherine Sutherland (3133) emigrated with their parents in 1842 to Owen Sound, Canada.

iii. Janet SUTHERLAND (3256) was born in 1830 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She died in 1830 in Caithness.

iv. Ann SUTHERLAND (3129) was born on 10 Sep 1831 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She died on 14 Aug 1914 in Sydenham, Ontario, at age 82. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Alexander (3119) and Christian (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁷⁸ She and Ellen Sutherland (3120), Donald Sutherland (3127), Christina Sutherland (3130), Janet Sutherland (3131), and Catherine Sutherland (3133) emigrated with her parents in 1842 to Owen Sound, Canada. She was engaged in the village and earned 7/6d per month on 14 Jul 1846. See the letter from Marcus Gunn.

v. Janet SUTHERLAND (3131)⁶⁷⁹ was born on 06 Jul 1833 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She married James Mackay (3167) on 02 Feb 1860. She died in 1908. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Alexander (3119) and Christian (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁸⁰ She and Ellen Sutherland (3120), Donald Sutherland (3127), Ann Sutherland (3129), Christina Sutherland (3130), and Catherine Sutherland (3133) emigrated with their parents in 1842 to Owen Sound, Canada. She was keeping house for her uncle Marcus Gunn on 14 Jul 1846. See the letter from Marcus Gunn.

vi. Ellen SUTHERLAND (3120). Ellen SUTHERLAND (3120)⁶⁸¹ was born on 21 Jul 1835 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁸² She married Hugh Gordon (3121) in 1855.⁶⁸³ She died on 27 Apr 1910 at age 74. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Alexander (3119) and Christian (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁸⁴ She and Donald Sutherland (3127), Ann Sutherland (3129), Christina Sutherland (3130), Janet Sutherland (3131), and Catherine Sutherland (3133)

⁶⁷⁷ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁶⁷⁸ UK Census 06 June 1841: Alexander Sutherland, cooper, 45; Christy Sutherland, 30; Christy Sutherland, 15; Donald Sutherland, 13; Ann Sutherland, 11; Jannet Sutherland, 9; Hellen Sutherland, 6; Williamina Sutherland, 4; Cathrine Sutherland, 2 and Marcus Gunn, 25. Note that census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual.

⁶⁷⁹ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 07 Aug 2008; I descend from Alexander and Christian a.k.a. Christina Gunn Sutherland. Unfortunately their 2 sons died unmarried. The daughters 3 of whom are mentioned in the letters are: Christina, Ann, Janet, plus the following: Ellen, Wilhemina, Catherine (Kate). All were born in Scotland except for the youngest son John who was born 1842 in Wentworth County, Ontario. Their son Donald was born in 1829.

⁶⁸⁰ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁶⁸¹ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 14 Aug 2008; '... you will note Alexander Sutherland. He was married to Christian (Christina) Gunn born 1802. They had 8 children. I descend from their daughter Ellen who married Hugh Gordon, their son Alex named for his grandfather Alexander Sutherland, his daughter Ellen was my mother.'

⁶⁸² Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 14 Aug 2008; Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 07 Aug 2008; 'I descend from Alexander and Christian a.k.a. Christina Gunn Sutherland. Unfortunately their 2 sons died unmarried. The daughters 3 of whom are mentioned in the letters (see Part 3) are: Christina, Ann, Janet, plus the following: Ellen, Wilhemina, Catherine (Kate). All were born in Scotland except for the youngest son John who was born 1842 in Wentworth County, Ontario. Their son Donald was # 2 in the family born in 1829'; Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn.

⁶⁸³ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 14 Aug 2008; '... you will note Alexander Sutherland. He was married to Christian (Christina) Gunn born 1802. They had 8 children. I descend from their daughter Ellen who married Hugh Gordon, their son Alex named for his grandfather Alexander Sutherland, his daughter Ellen was my mother.'

⁶⁸⁴ UK Census 06 June 1841: Alexander Sutherland, cooper, 45; Christy Sutherland, 30; Christy Sutherland, 15; Donald Sutherland, 13; Ann Sutherland, 11; Jannet Sutherland, 9; Hellen Sutherland, 6; Williamina Sutherland, 4; Cathrine Sutherland, 2 and Marcus Gunn, 25. Note that census instructions for recording age were that if under 15, actual age; if over 15, record to the nearest 5 years below actual.

emigrated with her parents in 1842 to Owen Sound, Canada. Child of Ellen Sutherland (3120) and Hugh Gordon (3121) was:

1. Alexander GORDON (3122). Alexander GORDON (3122)⁶⁸⁵ married Elizabeth Mowat (3125). Children of Alexander Gordon (3122) and Elizabeth Mowat (3125) include:

1.i. Ellen GORDON (3123) married Stanley Foster (978). She was a nurse in 1924.⁶⁸⁶ She lived to age 99, the oldest of seven children.⁶⁸⁷

vii. Williamina SUTHERLAND (3132) was born on 12 May 1838 in Caithness. She died on 02 Jul 1927 in Grey, Grey Co., Ontario, at age 89. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Alexander (3119) and Christian (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.

viii. Catherine SUTHERLAND (3133) was born on 09 Jun 1839 in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She married George Macdonald (3168), son of Hugh Macdonald (3169) and Barbara (--?--) (3170), in 1871. She died in 1900. She appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of her parents Alexander (3119) and Christian (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness. She and Ellen Sutherland (3120), Donald Sutherland (3127), Ann Sutherland (3129), Christina Sutherland (3130), and Janet Sutherland (3131) emigrated with their parents in 1842 to Owen Sound, Canada. George MACDONALD (3168) was born in 1833. He died on 31 Jan 1871 in Grey, Grey Co., Ontario.

ix. John SUTHERLAND (3128); born on passage in Feb 1842 to Wentworth Co., Ontario. He died on 17 Mar 1904 at age 62. He witnessed the marriage of Herbert William Jenkins (3117) and Janet Gunn (3113) on 26 Dec 1876 in Owen Sound, Ontario.⁶⁸⁸

⁶⁸⁵ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 14 Aug 2008; 'In the letters you will note Alexander Sutherland. He was married to Christian (Christina) Gunn born 1802. They had 8 children. I descend from their daughter Ellen who married Hugh Gordon, their son Alex named for his grandfather Alexander Sutherland, his daughter Ellen was my mother.'

⁶⁸⁶ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 06 Sep 2008; 'My mother, Ellen Gordon named after her grandmother, Ellen Sutherland Gordon lived to be 99. She trained as a nurse, graduating in 1924. She was the oldest of 7 children. I was her only child born in 1929. My father Stanley Foster was a farmer. I married Percy Warrilow in 1955. We had 3 children two sons and one daughter (deceased in 1978). Our sons have presented us with 5 grandchildren, the eldest soon to be 20 and the youngest 13'.

⁶⁸⁷ Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 07 Aug 2008; 'My line -gt. Grandmother Ellen Sutherland married Hugh Gordon, their son Alexander Gordon, my grandfather, Ellen Gordon, my mother who lived to be 99. My name is Mary Elizabeth Foster Warrilow'; Letter or email, Betty Warrilow to Donald Gunn, 06 Sep 2008.

⁶⁸⁸ Carol Small, e-mail message to Donald Gunn, 01 Sep 2008: Herbert William Jenkins, 25, teacher, England, Keppel, son of George Jenkins & Elizabeth Hopkins, married Janet Gunn, 25, Owen Sound, same, daughter of Marcus Gunn & Barbara McKay, witness John Sutherland of Sydenham & Arthur H N Jenkins of Normanby, 26 Dec 1876 at Owen Sound.



Halkirk 2011

9. Ninth Child - Marcus GUNN, Owen Sound (298)⁶⁸⁹ was born in 1805 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He was christened on 09 Aug 1805 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness.⁶⁹⁰ He married Barbara Mackay (3111), daughter of Neil Mackay (3114) and Margaret Sutherland (3115), on 04 Jan 1850 in Sydenham, Ontario; performed by Rev. McKinnon. He died 23 May 1878 in Owen Sound, Ontario. He was buried on 25 May 1878 in Greenwood, Ontario. In 1829 Marcus (298) was a cattle dealer. He witnessed the christening of (Sir) John Gunn (3250) on 04 Nov 1837 in Bualchork, Halkirk Parish, Caithness. He appeared on the census of 06 Jun 1841 in the household of Alexander Sutherland (3119) and Christian Gunn (602) in Camster, Latheron Parish, Caithness.⁶⁹¹ He emigrated to Canada in 1842. On 27 Sep 1842 in Owen Sound, Ontario, Marcus (298) wrote to John Mackay in Caithness. On 03 Nov 1845 in Owen Sound, Ontario, Marcus (298) wrote to brother Alexander. On 04 Jul 1846 in Owen Sound, Ontario, Marcus (298) wrote to brother Alexander at Brawlbin, Caithness. On 04 Jul 1846 in Owen Sound, Ontario, Marcus (298) wrote to his friend Robert Sinclair of Brawlbin in an addendum to a letter to his brother Alexander. He was a farmer in Lot 14, Concession 11, Sydenham, Ontario. He was a conscientious letter writer.

Barbara MACKAY (3111) was born in 1814 in Halkirk Parish, Caithness; died at age 67.⁶⁹² She was christened on 08 Mar 1814 in Bualintagill, Halkirk Parish, Caithness and died on 23 Dec 1881 in Sydenham, Ontario, age 67. She was buried on 25 Dec 1881 in Greenwood, Owen Sound, in the same plot as husband Marcus. She farmed with Marcus (298) in Lot 14, Concession 11, Sydenham (being the original name of Owen Sound), Ontario.⁶⁹³

The youngest child, Marcus (298) (b.1805) emigrated to Canada. Although Marcus was a successful cattle dealer in 'Bulcork' in October 1829 the conditions at the time seem less than ideal and this may have influenced him. A letter to him follows (possibly from his nephew John Munro (3166))—

⁶⁸⁹ *LDS Church*, christenings at Halkirk, Caithness, of children born to Donald Gunn and Janet McKenzie: John 18 Jan 1783 and Hugh 7 Jan 1787, with Alexander 9 Jun 1789, Donald 19 Mar 1796, William 12 Mar 1799, Christian 30 Jan 1802, Marcus 9 Aug 1805 further described as born at Halkirk.

⁶⁹⁰ Ibidem

⁶⁹¹ UK Census 06 June 1841.

⁶⁹² Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 03 Oct 2008: Family of Neil McKay & Margaret Sutherland of Caithness Scotland & Ontario Canada.

⁶⁹³ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 04 Aug 2008. <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wjmartin/grey8.htm>

Li

Criff - October 9th 1829

Now I have waited until
I saw Criff market over but has seen
no south country dealer there. Now
Broughton hill fair was a very dull
market for all kinds chiefly hinds
and I am really told a vast left un-
sold - Our north country jobbers are
in low spirits and this will be a
bad Falkirk market unless the
Scotchmen will help. There is to
an enormous shew of battled sheep
to be shewn here. Both Thomas & John
Armstrong the extensive dealers are
failed which will be a down cast
for some. I have no more particular
to state the crop is safely in and
Remain Sir yours truly Jas. Munro

The letter reads—

Crieff October 9th 1829

Sir

Now I have waited until I saw Crieff market over but has seen no south country dealer there. Now Brough hill fair was a very dull market for all kinds chiefly heifers and I am really told a vast left unsold. Our north country jobless are in low spirits and this will be a bad Falkirk⁶⁹⁴ market unless the Scotchmen will help Their is to an enormous show of Cattle & sheep to be shown here. Both Thomas and John Armstrong the extensive dealers are failed which will be a down cash for some I have no more particulars to state the crop is safely in and remain Sir yours truly Jno. Munro (?)

Here one can see some of the problems of the community, namely financial stress and the consequent community unsureness. The life of the highlanders at this time is too well known to need much restatement; but the clearances and mass emigration had begun. The few roads of the time were also of a poor kind.

The front cover of the letter is shown—



It is to Mr Marcus Gunn Cattle Dealer Bulcork Thurso Caithness. It has assorted other postal marks; a poor 'Penny Post' mark, a typical 'ADDL ½d' mark (being a further charge if the letter was carried by four wheeled coach in Scotland at this time) a manuscript mark and, most interestingly a red 'top half' Thurso mark towards the bottom. This mark is earlier than anything recorded in Auckland's *Postal Markings of Scotland to 1840*⁶⁹⁵.

⁶⁹⁴The greatest market in Scotland was at Falkirk' p.61. Iain Sutherland, *Caithness 1770 to 1832*.

⁶⁹⁵2nd edition edited by Ron Stables.

The next letter by Marcus (298) is from 'Owens Sound Upper Canada North America' via the 'St. Vinsint' post office. Some bits are missing from the letter as the original shows. It reads—

Bradford 27 September 1842

Dear John

I take the opportunity of writing you this few lines stating that I am in good health at present which I hope will find you in same, for the which I had reason to be thankful to the Almighty. We have had a long passage of eight weeks and 4 days to Quebec for we had to stop 4 days at the Grosse Isle (to get our clothes washed) at the Quarantine Ground for we had Sicknes on Board and one death, and their was 24 in number of our passengers kept at the Quarantein in the hospital and the ship and the rest forwarded to Quebec and arrived on a saturday morning after Breakfast we went a shore and saw a sight which I never saw an equal that Is the ports and Barracks. Their is 3 regiments their at present. The Pidoo(?) passengers was landed at Quebec and a great many of the rest which applied to the government for forwarding to Montrial gratis. My Comrade and me and a few more of us was allowed by the Captain to wait a board the ship to Montrial and took us their gratis, for my part I could not express the kindness with which he treated me and my partner, that is Osborn Sinclair it was in the second cabon we had our births in when the sickness began the birth below ours their was a wife and 3 Children and the woman and one her children got sick and so very sick that we could get no rest by being in the Birth above for two or three nights. I came in conversation one morning with the Captain and asked me how the woman and the boy was which I told him to be same way, only I told the Captain that we would not sleep in the same place that night should we sleep on dake the which he answered me imediately that he had an empty Birth and that he would make me and my partner welcome for the use of it to the Journeys end which we felt it very comfortable for when we all came to the quarantine all the chaff Beds was enptied and thrown away, and then had nothing to ly on but the bear deals., we had reason to be thankfull to the Almighty for that was the woman that died that was in the birth below us, The Captain has been very kind he ordered a Coffin to be made and sailed as near as possible to land an got her buried. When we got to Montrial my partner and me parted. he waited at Montrial and I assure you we was sorry in parting with each other for he was such an agreeable fine lad we messed together all three together Mr McLennan him and me and we had a midaged woman from Inverness which was an acquaintance of Mr McLennan. I took no kind of Beef neither Ham or mutton not a day ... Broth or fried Ham to our din ... same to Montrial their was a few ... took a steam boat to Toronto ... but I found the Captain very kind ... bed from him in the cabin gratis ... beatiful country the very first hous ... of America we thought a great deal as the farther we went on the prettier it was. As we was coming we was enquiring about their crops which is very good in General, which I hope to hear from you about your Harvest and crops. I have no more particular news to mention but give my best respects Mr James Henderson and and both Mrs Henderson and likewise give my Best respects to Donald Sutherland Thurso and David Gunn wife & family. Likewise give my compliments to Chirsty McLeod and to the Revd. Rob Rose McKay likewise give my compliments to my brothers and families and to all the neighbours that enquires about me, and Especially to my Brother that I resided with wife and family and my dear little Johnie above all the rest and give my compliments to Donald (of Tormsdale 262) father (?) wife and mother & family, give my Compliments to your father and mother Brother and sisters not forgetting yourself. mind write as soon as possible with all the news you can from the old country and how the price of cattle came and the price of the meal.

*I have no more to say at present But remains yours truly
Marcus Gunn. (address—see the top of the page)*

Bradford 27 Sept 1842

Dear John I take the opportunity of writing
you this few lines stating that I am in good
health at present which I hope will find you in
the same, for the which I had reason to be thank-
ful to the Almighty. We have had a long pas-
sage of eight weeks ^{of 4 days} to Quebec for we had to stop
4 days at the Grosse Isle at the Quarantine
Ground for we had sickness on board and
one death, and there was 24 in number of our
passengers kept at the Quarantine in the hospital
and the ship and the rest forwarded to Quebec and
arrived on a Saturday morning after breakfast
we went ashore and saw a sight which I
never ^{saw} an equal that is the forts and Barracks
there is 3 Regiments there at present. The whole
passengers was landed at Quebec and a great
many of the rest which applied to the government
for forwarding to Montreal gratis my Comrade
and me and a few more of us was allowed
by the Captain to wait a board the ship to
Montreal and took us there gratis, for my part
I could not express the kindness with which he
treated me and my partner that is Osborn Pinder
it was in the second cabin we had our births in
when the sickness began the birth below ours there
was a wife and 3 children and the woman and one

X to get our clothes washed

her children got sick and so very sick that we
could get no rest by being in the Birth above
for two or three nights, I came in conversation
one morning with the Captain and asked mo
how the woman and the boy was which I told
him to be same way, only I told the Captain
that we would not sleep in the same place
that night should we sleep on deck the
which he answered me immediately that he had
an empty Birth and that he would ^{make} me and
my partner welcome ^{for the use of it} to the Journey's end which
we felt it very comfortable for when we all
came to the quarantine all the chaff Beds
was emptied and thrown away, and then had
nothing to lay on but the bear deals, ~~but~~ we had
reason to be thankful to the Almighty for
that was the woman that died that ~~sleeps~~ in
the Birth below us, The Captain has been
very kind he ordered a Coffin to be made
and sailed as near as possible to land and got
her buried. When we got to Montreal my partner
and me parted. he waited at Montreal and I
assure you ~~the~~ was sorry in parting with each
other for he was such an agreeable fine lad we
messed together all three together M^r. McLeman
him and me and we had a Midaged ~~from~~
woman from Inverness which was an acquaintance
of M^r. McLeman I took no kind of beef neither Ham

or mutton but I was not a day without
 broth or some fried Ham to our dinner
 came to Montreal there was a few
 took a steam boat to Toronto at
 but I found the Captain very kind
 bed from him in the cabin gratis.
 beautiful country the very first hour
 of America we thought a great deal but the farther
 we went on the prettier it was, as we was coming
 we was enquiring about their crops which is very
 good in General, which I hope to hear from you
 about your Harvest and crops, I have no more
 particular news to mention Give my best respect
 Mr James Henderson and and both Mr Henderson
 and likewise Give my best respect to Dona
 Subland Thurso and David Gunn wife &
 family likewise give my compliments to
 Christy M Leod and to the Mrs Rob Rose
 May likewise give my compliments to
 my Brothers and families and to all the
 neighbours that enquires about me, and
 Especially to my Brother that I resided with wife
 and family and my dear little Johnie above all the rest
 and give my compliments to Dona & Thurso wife
 and mother & family, give my compliments to your
 father and mother Brother and sisters not forget
 ting yourself. mind write as soon as possible with all
 the news you can from the old country and how the price of
 cattle came on and the price of the meal
 Address to Marcus Gunn } I have no more to say at present
 1st Vincent Street
 Office - ^{Quebec} Lower Town & ^{Upper Canada} ^{in the Americas} } But remains yours truly
 Maxwell Gunn



Addressed—
to John McKay Achlipster
Parish of Halkirk
County of Caithness
North Britain

There is a light, part inked BROADFORD circular postal mark under the manuscript Sept 30/44; the date being a manuscript addition to it. Note the cost—1 shilling and 2 pence; expensive.

The recipient is John McKay (3467), a son-in-law of Donald Gunn of Braehour and Brawlbin, the sennachie. John McKay also wrote letters to Donald in Australia.

The next letter by Marcus was written at Owens Sound on 3 November 1845 to his brother Alexander (1) (who married Barbara Gunn (6) and whose children emigrated to Australia) and reads:

Dear Brother

I find my myself under the Obligation of writing you these few lines to let you know that I enjoy my Health better than when I parted with you which I have reason to be thankfull to the most High, that we are spared in the land of the living, and on the ground of hope, which I hope will find you in the usual state of Health that I got an account the last time I got an account from Caithness. I am to state to you the number of weeks that we took on our passage which I understand has been told you before but how ever I am to state it in your own letter since I left Thurso we had been 8 weeks and four days to Quebec, which I was kindly treated by our Captain both myself and my Comrade about 4 weeks sailing sickness happened to break out on the ... in the Birth Below where we were sleeping in so much that I could not get any sleep in the night time and after making an application to the Captain I and my comrade was ordered in to the Cabin with our Bed Clothes and was there till we came to Quebec and got along with him from Quebec to Montreal without charging for our Birth in the Cabin of the Extra passage to Montreal. When we came to Montreal there were different steamers the one in opposition to the other especially their agents acting for them with handbills, the which I had a number of them before I left the ship, the which I came in conversation with the first of the agents that spoke to me and enquired of him about Hugh Gunn the Butcher that was at Thurso and told me to have known him well and went along with me where he was and a few more and after treating us kindly advised me to go by this agents steamer which he thought to be the safest and cheapest for it was to Carry us to Toronto without touching at Kingston and told me that he would call upon me aboard the steamer before we would sail and stood to his promise suppose I did not happen to be aboard at the time, however I felt his kindness in a manner that I got my luggage, and a bed in the Cabin gratis only 8 shillings of passage money, the which the rest had to pay for their luggage and Births and passage, I have not settled myself ... any land as yet or do not mean to do this season I work still upon my trade and with the same man. Alex Suther (Sutherland?) wife and family is all well and is working considerably well on his new farm and has a good deal of Cattle one yoke of good Oxen two young sheers and four cows in Calf and two Calves, and I have bought myself two good Heifars Calves which if they will be wintered well and attended regularly in giving them salt will be bulled the first season, Should A man be ever so poor if he is a well doing man and industrious and gets a lot of land a cow and a yoke of oxen he will soon have a good stock for there is not a farrow cow to be seen in this country or a two year old heifar without bulled about a months ago I have seen the two Campbells from Brubster and two Campbells from Spary (?) and Donald McKay from Grimby(?) and they have bought a 100 acres the piece of land as beautiful land as I have ever seen with good spring creeks and likewise I have seen John Gunn ... hour and is likewise settle upon a lot of 100 acres, likewise Donald Munro's widow from Harpisdale (?) and her son is in the neighbourhood here and are quiet well and George Ba... from Thurary (?) as in the neighbourhood and a great deal of the Scotch which may be called the Scotch Line and Angus Bain has ... married to Georges wife's sister servant... from 3 1/2 to 4 dollars per month and her servant gets from 10 to 12 dollars per D and 1/2 a dollar when employed by the day that is 2 shilling sterling and John my brother I would not advise him to come unless his own mind would lead him but one thing aman that could come himself and family to this part of the country he would do well for there is chances going here now in the way of Grants which I am afraid will not continue long, please give my kind compliments to widow Sinclair and family to Margaret Sutherland and sister and your father Finlay wife and family. To John Gunn and sister and Robert McKay and John Bain Calder (?) wife family and well wishers not forgetting yourself and family and enquirers

Dear Brother I remain yours with respect

Marcus Gunn

PS Alex. Sutherland wife and family Join in sending their kind Compliments to you and your family now as soon as this comes to your hand you shall write me an answer immediately with all the news you possibly can from that part of the country I beg to be excused for delaying so long in writing to you, but it was

proposed by the free church presbytery of Hamilton that the Sacrament of the Lords Super would be held in this township which did not come to pass and that was the reason of my delaying so long that I might have something more to state, I remain yours truly Marcus Gunn

Direct to the care of Mr Telfer, Land agent, Lower Jour..., St. Vincent Post Office, Ca ... merica.

Dear Brother Owens Sound 3 Nov 1845

I find my myself under the obligation of writing you these few lines to let you know that I enjoy my Health better than when I parted with you which I have reason to be thankful to the most High, that we are spared in the land of the living, and on the ground of hope, which I hope will find you in the usual state of Health that I got an account the last time I got an account from Catharine I am to state on the number of weeks that we took on our passage which I understand has been told you before but however I am to state it in your own letter since I left Thurso we had been 8 weeks and four days to Quebec, which I was kindly treated by our Captain both myself and my Comrade about 4 weeks sailing sickness happened to break out on the 10th in the berth below where we were sleeping in so much that I could not get any sleep in the night time and after making an application to the Captain I and my Comrade was ordered in to the Cabin with our Bed clothes and was there till we came to Quebec and got along with ^{him} from Quebec to Montreal without either charging for our berth in the cabin or the Extra passage to Montreal

When we came to Montreal there was different
steamers the one in opposition to the other especially
their agents acting for them with hand bills, the
which I had a number of them before I left
the ship, the which I came in conversation
with the first of the agents that spoke to me
and enquired of him of about Hugh Gums the
Butcher that was at Thurso and told me to have
known him well and went along with me where
he was and a few more and after treating
us kindly advised me to go by this agents steam^{er}
which he thought to be the safest and cheapest for
for it was to carry us to Toronto without touching
at Kingston and told ~~me~~ that he would
call upon ^{me} aboard the steamer before we
would sail and stood to his promise supposing
did ^{not} happen to be aboard at the time, however I put
his kindness in a manner that I got my baggage
, and a bed in the Cabin gratis ~~and~~ 8 shillings
of passage money, the which the rest had to
pay for their baggage and books and passage,
I have not settled myself ~~any~~ land as yet
or do not mean to do this season I work still upon
my trade and with the same men, Alex Luthan
wife and family is all well and is working consid^{erably}
well on his new farm and has a good ^{deal} of cattle
one yoke of good Oxen two young Steers and four cows
in calf and two calves, and I have bought my
self two good Ayrshire Calves which if they will

be wintered well and attended regularly in
giving them salt will be bull the first season,
should the man be ever so poor if he is a well
doing man and industrious and gets a lot of plain
a cow and a yoke of oxen he will soon have a
good stock for there is not a ferrow cow to be seen
in this country nor a two year old Harpur without a
bull about a month ago I have seen the two Cam-
pells from Brubster and two Campbells from
Spary and Donald Whay from Elrimey and
they have bought a 100 acres the piece of land
as beautiful land as I have ever seen with
good spring creeks, and likewise I have seen
John Gunn the hour and is likewise to
settle upon a lot of 100 acres, likewise Donald
Munro, widow from Harpisdale and her son is
in the neighbourhood here and are quite well
and George Ba from Thurary is in the nei-
ghbourhood and a great deal of the Scotch whom
may be called the Scotch Line and Angus
Whinn has arrived to Georges wife's sister
Levanth.

and men servants gets from 10 to 12 dollars per
and 1/2 a dollar when employed by the day
that is 2 Shilling sterling, and John my brother
not advise him to come unless his own mind would
lead him but one thing a man that could serve him
and finally to this part of the country, he would
well for there is chances going here in way of Grant
which I am afraid will not continue long, please give my
kind compliments to Widow Sinclair and family
to Margaret Puffo and sister and your father, please
and family to John Gunn and sister and Robert
mKay and John Bain and family and well wishes
not to hear of you and family and inquires
Dear Mother I hope
yours with respect
Martha Gunn

The next extant letter by Marcus is to his brother Alexander (1);

Sydenham 14 July 1846

My dear beloved Brother,

I sit down with pleasure to write an answer to your letter of the 8 Jan which came to hand in the latter end of Feb and now I am to let you know about my friends here that we enjoy our usual health thanks be to the Almighty God for it, in whose hands is our moving our life and our being. But now I suppose you will be surprised for my delaying in writing you But my reason of delaying was to give you as proper an account of the place as I could, and you wished me to mention what preacher we have got. there is not any as yet stationed in this place, But the Presbytery of Hamilton, I mean of the free church are now and then, and the Sacrament of the Lords Supper was administered in this place By two ministers Belonging to the free church. The ones name was McSmelly (?) from Orkny which preached in english and the others name was Mr Meldrum from Lochabar or their Abouts, the which account I give of them both that they took Caithness again in my view, which often is in regard of that, but I have to state about them both that I heard nothing like them since I left their, But there be a whole line of Highland Scotch here that keeps a meeting every Sabbath between themselves but all connected with the free church, which I attend regular myself that is if I can for it is upon the same line or conception (concession?) that my lot is only my clearing is upon the rear of the ... for the man that I bought the right of it was their ... gan (one word) to clear because it was nearer to the village. But there is the same convenience on both ends to build and clear which I mean to do if spared in health, But I mean first to clear 10 or 12 acres on the rear and fence it in, and then clear and settle upon the front, for there is two beautiful spring creeks one on the rear and one on the front which does not dry a day in the year which is a great object in this country, and both free from swamps the which very few of this country creeks is, I have cleared the one on the rear this year free from having any wood in it. I can go to the town from this end of the lot in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. It is on the same ... (?) now with Sutherlands but is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles nearer the town than his, my lot is the next to the town reserve, there was 4 lines (?) of grants surveyed last harvest, a line in each township which was given out by Billotting the same as the militaria and after that, was obliged to put Blanks in along with the tickets (to the side—owing to the number of men there for Grants), which I had no chance of getting any but I bought a ticket from a partner I had working in the same shop but it was about $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the village but thought it too far away but preserved it all the time till I got a chance at this one I have got upon which was between 4 or 5 acres cleared and a neat Shanty built upon it and I bought the crops and cooking utensils and what furniture belonged to him Which cost me High for every acre that is cleared in this country is worth four pounds for the chopping and clearing of it. I have been working all the summer and the most of the Spring on the place. I have got 6 Bushels of wheat in the ground and near two bushels of oats and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Bar merely for a trial and some Indian corn and 9 Bushels of potatoes and some turnips which appears to be a fair crop all through and likewise Alex. Sutherland has got a pretty large clearing and likewise his crop is promising to be a fair crop and one of his little girls Jannet is keeping house for me and Chirsty His daughter is serving in the village in the house that I had been working in this six or seven months and gets 4 dollars a month. That is the rate of 12 currency a year and her occupation is ... and dressing and Ann his second daughter is engaged in the village since a month or two and gets 7/6 per month but I suppose they will require them themselves for the harvest. But Sutherland poor man lost one of his oxen this spring in the Bush it is supposed that he has been carried away and killed which is a great loss to him and to me likewise for I will not get a pair of oxen to log a day without 5/ a day and a labouring man 2/6 a day and Board, the which I had a good number of them since I commenced,

I am sorry to learn from my brother Donald letter that you are still in poor state of Health, But I was glad to learn from your own letter, that you had no servant in the house but Angus's Keith and that your family did wonderfully and were a blessing to you, the which news I hope to find in your next. Alexr Sutherland wife

and family and I join in sending our kind Compliments you and family and all enquiring friends and acquaintances, for I have no room to mention them seperately,

Dear Alexander I remain your sincere

and loving Brother

Marcus Gunn

My Dear Friend, (to Mr Robert Sinclair, Brawlbin)

I am to write this few lines to let you know that I enjoy my usual Health which I hope will find you in the same manner of Health for the which we should be thankful. Now I'll let you know a little about our new settlement which is but a young one, the Village or township Owen Sound their is double the quantity of Houses their more than when I came here. Their was only two merchant shops their and one shoemakers shop and one ainer (tanner?), now there are seven merchant shops and 4 shoemaker shops and two tanners and two taverns and one Bakers Shop and every thing is getting ...nderfully. We ..pe to have aminister Belonging to the ... church Settle ...mong us soon and again when I came there was but two scooners upon the Lake But now their is two small Propellas or Steamers which is a great advantage to emigrants to this part of the country, the price of wheat in this settlement from 4/ to 5/-per Bushel flour 4½ dollars to 5½ per Barrel, Bear 3/ per bushel, salt 1/9 to 2/3 per Bushel, potatoes 1/3 to 2/ per Bushel, pork 6d to 7½. per lb., Beef 2½. per lb., Eggs 7½ . to 8. per doz., Butter 7½ to 10d. per lb.

And to all enquiring friends acquaintances and well wishers not forgetting yourself

I am yours with respect

Marcus Gunn

To Mr Robert Sincliar

Brawlbin

please make Alexr. my Brother give my respect to John my Brother wife and family and likewise to Hugh wife and family and that they need not be offended for me not writing them

I am -----(?) respect----(?) M

I have seen John Gunn Brayhour he is quiet well in health and the McKays or Bains from Thury and many more from that parish which is in the same township with me and are well in health as far as I know, please give my compliments to your Brother (s?) Mother and Sister and to your friends in that town and to the Revd. R Mckay

The people in the above two paragraphs are Alexander Gunn (1), John Gunn (294) Hugh Gunn (295) and probably John Gunn 'Brayhour' (3360).

My Dear Beloved Brother Sydneyham 14th July 1846
 I sit down with pleasure to write
 an answer of your letter of the 8th Jan which came to
 hand in the latter end of Feb. and now I am to let
 you know about my friends here, and myself that we
 enjoy our usual health at present thanks be to the
 almighty God for it, in whose hands is our moving our life
 and our being, but now I suppose you will be surprised
 for my delaying in writing you but my reason of
 delaying was to give you as proper an account of the
 place as I could, and you wished me to mention what
 preachers we have got, there is not any as yet stationed
 in the place, but the Presbytery of Hamilton I mean of
 the free church one now and there, and the Sacra-
 ment of the Lords Supper was administered in this place
 by two ministers belonging to the free church the one
 name was Mr. Jamieson from Glasgow which preached in
 English and the others name was Mr. Meldrum from
 Loshabar or thereabouts, the which account I give of them
 both that they both minister again in my view which
 often is in regard of that, but I have to state about them
 both that I heard nothing like them since I left them, but
 there is a whole line of Highland Notes here that keeps a
 meeting every Sabbath between themselves but all con-
 nected with the free church, which I attend regular-
 myself that is if I can for it is upon the same line or
 conception that my lot is only my clearing is upon
 the rear of the ~~land~~ for the man that I bought thought
 of it was their ~~land~~ to clear ~~the~~ use, it was
 meared to the ~~the~~ place, but this is the same convention
 on both ends to build and clear, which I mean to do
 if spared in health, but I mean first to clear 10 or 12-
 acres on the rear and fence it in, and then clear and
 settle upon ~~the~~ front for there is ^{two} beautiful spring creeks
 one on the rear and one on the front which does not dry
 a day in the year which is a great object in this
 country, and both free from swamps the which very few
 of this country ^{creaks} have cleared other one on the rear this
 year free from ~~the~~ having any ^{in it} woods, I can go to the town from there

This letter is scanned in two parts as it is approximately 13 inches / 330 mm in length.

I am sorry to learn from my Brother Donald letter
that you are still in a poor state of Health, But I
was glad to learn from your own letter that you had
no servant in the house but Angus Keith, and that
your family did wonderfully and were a blessing to
you, the which news I hope to find in your next
Alex^r Fetherland wife and family and I join
in sending our kind Compliments you and
family and all Engaging friends and Acquain-
tances, for I have got no room to mention them
separately,

Dear Alexander I remain your sincere
and loving Brother

Marcellus Gunn

My Dear friend

I am to write this few lines
to let you know that I enjoy my usual Health which
I hope will find you in the same manner of Health
for the which we should be thankful, Now let
let you know a little about our new settlement
which is but a young one, the Village or town
Owen Sound their is double the Quantity of Houses
there more than when I came here their was only
two merchant shops their and one shoemakers
shop and one ~~inn~~, now their is seven merchant
shops and 4 shoemaker shops and two tanners
and two ~~lavers~~ and one baker Shop and every
thing is getting wonderfully, we ^{have} ~~are~~ to administer
belonging to the church Let me hear from you soon

and again when I came there was but two Schooners
upon the Lake but now their is two small
Propellas or Stomers which is a great advantage
to emigrants to this part of the country, the po-
ice of wheat in this settlement from 4/ to 5/ per Bushel
flour ^{4/2} to 5/ per Barrel. Bear 3/ per Bushel salt
1/6 to 2/5 per Bushel potatoes 1/3 to 2/ per Bushel
Pork 6 to 7/2 per lb. Beef 3/2 to 4/ lb Eggs 7/2 to 8/ lb Dore
butter 7/2 to 10/ per lb



The trials of the journey are visible. Marcus now settles into the Canadian wilderness. The vision of a little Scotland in early Canada and of the increasing prosperity of Marcus and the township provide a vivid glimpse of early Canada.

Children of Marcus Gunn in Owen Sound (298) and Barbara Mackay (3111) both born in Sydenham, Ontario, were:

i. Janet GUNN (3113). Janet GUNN (3113) was born in 1851 in Sydenham, Ontario. She married Herbert William Jenkins (3117), son of George Jenkins (755) and Elizabeth Hopkins (3307), on 26 Dec 1876 in Owen Sound, Ontario.⁶⁹⁶ She died on 01 May 1900 in Owen Sound, Ontario.⁶⁹⁷ She was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario. She was a teacher in 1876. Herbert William JENKINS (3117) was born on 05 Dec 1850; was 25 when married. He died on 25 Mar 1941 at age 90. He was buried in Greenwood, Owen Sound, Ontario. He was a teacher in 1876.

Children of Janet Gunn (3113) and Herbert William Jenkins (3117) were:

1. Herbert Claude Marcus JENKINS (3160). Herbert Claude Marcus JENKINS (3160)⁶⁹⁸ was born on 30 Nov 1877 in Keppel, Grey Co., Ontario.⁶⁹⁹ He married Agnes Jane Brown (3290) on 02 Sep 1902 in Owen Sound, Ontario. Agnes Jane BROWN (3290) was born in 1877.

Twin children of Herbert Claude Marcus Jenkins (3160) and Agnes Jane Brown (3290) both born in Owen Sound, Ontario, were as follows:

- i. Cecil Herbert JENKINS (2871) was born on 23 Oct 1903.
- ii. Nora Gertrude JENKINS (3310) was born on 23 Oct 1903.

2. Eva Elizabeth JENKINS (3159) was born on 03 Apr 1880 in Sydenham Twp, Grey Co., Ontario. She died on 15 Nov 1973 in Owen Sound, Ontario, at age 93. She was buried in Greenwood, Owen Sound, Ontario.

3. Norah Blanche JENKINS (3308) was born on 24 Jan 1884 in Sydenham Twp, Grey Co., Ontario. She died on 20 Oct 1885 in Owen Sound, Ontario, at age 1. She was buried in Greenwood, Owen Sound, Ontario.

⁶⁹⁶ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 01 Sep 2008: 'Herbert William Jenkins, 25, teacher, England, Keppel, son of George Jenkins & Elizabeth Hopkins, married Janet Gunn, 25, Owen Sound, same, daughter of Marcus Gunn & Barbara McKay, witness John Sutherland of Sydenham & Arthur H N Jenkins of Normanby, 26 Dec 1876 at Owen Sound.'

⁶⁹⁷ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 03 Oct 2008: Family of Neil McKay & Margaret Sutherland of Caithness Scotland & Ontario Canada and for further information on this page.

⁶⁹⁸ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008 and for further information on this page.

⁶⁹⁹ Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 03 Oct 2008: Family of Neil McKay & Margaret Sutherland and for further information on this page.

ii. **Margaret GUNN** (3112). Margaret GUNN (3112) was born in 1852 in Sydenham, Ontario. She married James Lindsay Boyd (3116) on 21 Dec 1871. She died on 29 May 1920 in Sarawak Twp, Grey Co., Ontario.⁷⁰⁰ She was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario.

James Lindsay BOYD (3116) was born on 20 Apr 1848. He died in Dec 1918 at age 70.⁷⁰¹ He emigrated in 1861 to Canada. He was a farmer in 1871 in Sydenham Twp, Ontario. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario.⁷⁰² Children of Margaret Gunn (3112) and James Lindsay Boyd (3116) were:

1. William John BOYD (3153)⁷⁰³ was born on 25 Dec 1872 in Sydenham Twp, Grey Co., Ontario. He died on 18 Feb 1886 in Sydenham Twp, Grey Co., Ontario, at age 13.

2. Barbara Jane BOYD (3152) was born on 22 Aug 1875 in Sydenham Twp, Ontario. She married David Reilly (3156) on 22 Dec 1897 in Sydenham Twp, Grey Co., Ontario. She died on 26 Aug 1973 in Greenwood, Ontario, at age 98.⁷⁰⁴ She was buried in Aug 1973 in Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario.

David REILLY (3156) was born in 1869 in Ontario. He died on 03 Apr 1924 in Owen Sound, Ontario. He was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario.

3. Marcus Gunn BOYD (3155).

4. Robert John BOYD (3150). Robert John BOYD (3150) was born on 23 Feb 1880 in Sydenham, Grey Co., Ontario. He married Sarah Alice Cook (3157). He died on 12 Nov 1939 in Owen Sound, Ontario, at age 59. He was buried in Greenwood, Owen Sound, Ontario. Sarah Alice COOK (3157) was born in 1887. She died 21 May 1968. Children of Robert John Boyd (3150) and Sarah Alice Cook (3157) were:

⁷⁰⁰ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 03 Oct 2008: Family of Neil McKay & Margaret Sutherland of Caithness Scotland & Ontario Canada; *Unknown newspaper*, 'The death occurred on Saturday morning of Mrs Margaret Boyd in the Township of Sarawak. Mrs Boyd was the widow of the late James L Boyd, reeve of Sydenham for many years, and who passed away a year ago last December. Since the death of her husband, Mrs Boyd has been living with her daughter, Mrs David Riley at Presque Isle. She was the daughter of the late Marquis and Mrs Gunn and was born on the farm on Superior Street where she lived up to the death of her husband, whom she married forty-nine years ago. She saw the country grow from a wild and tangled wilderness to a highly cultivated farming district. During her long life she endeared herself to the hearts of all she met by her quiet, motherly ways. She was a member of Knox Church, Owen Sound, and always took a deep interest in church affairs. She leaves no brothers or sisters but two sons; Marquis G of Empress, Alta., and Robert John on the Superior Street homestead, and one daughter, Mrs David Riley of Presque Isle, remain to mourn the loss...'

⁷⁰¹ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; *Unknown newspaper*, 'The late James Lindsay Boyd was born in Ireland 76 years ago and came to this country in 1871 when a young man of 18 years, and was accompanied by his mother. Mr Boyd first settled in Derby, where he lived for ten years and then moved to Sydenham, where he took up a farm on the 12th concession, and he spent the balance of his life on this farm, with the exception of a brief period in railroading.

In the municipal life of Sydenham, Mr Boyd has played a prominent part. He always took a keen interest in the affairs of the township and for the last 16 years was a member of the township council. For three years of this he was deputy-reeve and last January he was elected to reeveship by acclamation. Not only in the township affairs was he an authority, but he was regarded as one of the best county councillors. He was well informed on all subjects and his advice was always sound.

On Dec 21 1871, he was married to Margaret Gunn, who survives with two sons, Robert John, on the homestead, and Marques G of Empress, Alberta, and one daughter, Mrs David Reilly of Annan. Mr Boyd was a member of Knox Church, Owen Sound and the Masonic Order. He was held in the highest esteem by hundreds of friends, not only in his own township but here in Owen Sound and elsewhere.'

⁷⁰² Bill & Sharon Gurney, e-mail to Donald Gunn, 03 Oct 2008: Family of Neil McKay & Margaret Sutherland of Caithness Scotland & Ontario Canada and for further information on this page.

⁷⁰³ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008 and for further information on this page.

⁷⁰⁴ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008; *Unknown newspaper*, 'A resident of Owen Sound for 50 years, Mrs David Reilly, 98, formerly of 145-5th St, E, died Sunday in the General & Marine Hospital. Born in Sydenham Township, she was the former Barbara Jane Boyd, a daughter of the late James and Margaret Boyd. In 1897, she married David Reilly and the couple farmed at Hoath Head until 1917 when they moved to a farm in Sarawak Township. Mr Reilly died in 1923.'

i. James Henry Robert BOYD (3268) was born in 1910 in Sydenham, Ontario. He married Catherine Lilian Locke (3276) on 01 Oct 1927.⁷⁰⁵ He died on 20 Oct 1952.

ii. Norman BOYD (3165)⁷⁰⁶ was born after 1911. He married Laurene Vance (--?--) (3272). He died after 1952.

iii. Earl BOYD (3269) was born after 1911. He married Margaret Morton (3279). He died after 1952.

iv. William James BOYD (3270) was born after 1911. He died after 1952.

v. Edna BOYD (3271) was born after 1911. She married Allan Bothwell (3283).

5. Catherine Margaret BOYD (3154) was born on 21 Jul 1882 in Sydenham Twp, Grey Co., Ontario. She died on 30 Mar 1906 in Sydenham Twp, Grey Co., Ontario, at age 23. She was buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Owen Sound, Ontario.

⁷⁰⁵ *Unknown newspaper*, 'A well known Owen Sound contractor, R. J. Harry Boyd, was fatally injured late Friday morning when he fell about 20 feet to the ground while he was building a new roof. He died in the G and M Hospital less than three hours later. ... the late Mr Boyd was born in Sydenham township 46 years ago last March 16. He was the son of Mrs Sadie Ellis Boyd and the late Robert Boyd. Twenty five years ago October 1 he married the former Catherine Lillian Locke in Meaford. Mr Boyd is survived by his wife and mother, two children, Bobbie and Lorna, both at home, three brothers, Earle of Barrie, Norman of Sydenham and William of Owen Sound on one sister, Edna, Mrs Allen Bothwell of Annan.'

⁷⁰⁶ Carol Small, e-mail to Donald Gunn, Aug 2008 and further information on this page.

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